

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2656.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1878.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1878.

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## LITERATURE

*A Memoir of Lieutenant-General Sir Garnet J. Wolseley, K.C.B., G.C.M.G.* By Charles Rathbone Low. 2 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

THE career of an officer who in such times as those in which we live has attained by the age of forty-five the rank of Lieutenant-General, is a K.C.B., G.C.M.G., and Governor of Cyprus, although he started in life without any family interest, cannot fail to be good subject for a biography. Sir Garnet Wolseley has risen so rapidly, been wounded so often, and has seen so much active service, that his adventures would supply material for half a dozen military novels. Mr. Low, however, claims for him more than professional critics will be disposed to admit. In his Preface, Mr. Low speaks of Sir Garnet as "one of England's greatest and most patriotic sons," and commences the first chapter by calling him "one of the foremost and most trusted of England's soldiers." Such high-flown terms are calculated to do the victim more harm than good, for exaggerated praise is apt to produce a reaction. Sir Garnet Wolseley has established a reputation as a good soldier and a successful administrator; he has, however, yet to prove himself a great commander. The Red River Expedition was a pioneer excursion, and the Ashantee Campaign was on a small scale; his opponents were badly-armed savages, and the chief difficulties were those connected with climate and transport. Save in the desultory fighting on the Gold Coast, Sir Garnet Wolseley has never handled a body of troops larger than a company. Whether or not therefore he is an able tactician and strategist it is impossible to say.

Had Mr. Low confined himself to a record of Sir Garnet's achievements, and had he been less diffuse and eulogistic, his book would have been infinitely more acceptable. Unluckily, following the example of most biographers, he has compiled two volumes where one would have been ample. The reader need not complain, however, for it is permissible to skip, and it must be admitted that there are interesting anecdotes and episodes in the work before us. The son of a soldier, Garnet Wolseley was destined for the military profession at an early age, and as soon as he emerged from childhood began to prepare himself for the profession of his choice. Educated at a private school near Dublin and by private tutors, he was gazetted to the 80th Regiment in March,

1852, when still wanting four months of nineteen. In the autumn of the same year he was sent out with a draft to Rangoon, his regiment being engaged in the second Burmese War. The young ensign distinguished himself by his gallantry in the attack on Myat-toon's position, where he volunteered to lead the storming party, and was severely wounded in the thigh. Returning to England on sick leave, he was for his services promoted to a lieutenancy in the 90th Light Infantry. With this regiment he landed in the Crimea on the 4th of December, 1854. A month later he was appointed Assistant Engineer—a position for which his knowledge of field engineering acquired while a schoolboy fitted him. He had hard work in the trenches, and showed equal endurance, gallantry, and skill. But we must pause for a moment to mention an incident which nearly sent Wolseley back to civil life. He was gazetted to a company in December, 1854, but, considering his service too short—he had been little over two years and eight months an officer—the promotion was cancelled:—

"Considering this a slur cast upon him, Mr. Wolseley at once wrote, expressing his intention to resign his commission unless he was immediately reinstated, and, fortunately for his country, the order was rescinded. Some time afterwards, Capt. Wolseley learned the true cause of this extraordinary freak of the authorities; and it was this. The father of an officer of the 77th went to the Horse Guards, and asked why his son, who was older than Capt. Wolseley, had not been promoted to his company. The answer the anxious parent received was that his son was too young, and that Capt. Wolseley's promotion was an exception to the rule, because he rose from the ranks. Subsequently, finding out the blunder they had committed, and that Wolseley had not risen from the ranks, the said authorities cancelled his promotion as before mentioned, and so ended (sic) this Comedy of Errors."

Slightly wounded in April, while engaged in repairing an embrasure under a heavy fire, he had a narrow escape of death a little later:—

"He was walking one day during the bombardment with Capt. Peel in rear of the line of batteries, when a 13-inch shell hurtling through the air, lit on the entrance of a magazine and crushed it in. Just for a passing second Wolseley stood still, paralyzed as it were, while he waited for the whole party to be blown to atoms—a fate which seemed imminent. But Peel's undaunted heart quailed not even for that infinitesimal portion of time, and he dashed into the magazine, full as it was of powder, without a moment's hesitation or a thought of danger. A second later and Wolseley was by his side, and they were engaged pulling down the sand-bags, which guarded the entrance and were all on fire, and soon the magazine was built up again."

A distinguished officer of engineers, who saw much of Wolseley during the siege, declared to the author that he—Wolseley—was the bravest man he ever saw. He added that Wolseley was noted for always turning his face towards an approaching shell, and on being asked why he did so, said that his reason was that "in the event of his being killed it could not be said of him that he turned his back on the enemy, or fell while running away from a shell." In the assault on the quarries Capt. Wolseley was one of the Engineer officers who conducted a column, and received a flesh wound in the thigh from a canister shot. On the occasion of the disastrous attack on the Redan, on the 18th of June, his post

was in the third parallel. He was in conversation with Captains Beresford and Browne of the 88th, when a round shot carried off the arm of the latter, covering a new jacket Wolseley had put on that morning with blood. Captain Browne jumped up from the ground and actually did not know of the loss he had experienced. To Wolseley's hurried question "What's the matter?" he replied, "Nothing." A similar incident occurred to another officer at the Alma. He was shot through the arm and never knew he was wounded till the battle was over. On the 30th of August Wolseley was severely wounded. A round shot struck a gabion close to him which was being filled with stones. The latter were driven against him, and he was severely cut in the face and body with the fragments. Indeed, the sight of one eye was completely destroyed. Laid up in hospital for some months, he was on the point of taking sick leave to England when he was appointed to the Quartermaster-General's Department, in which he was principally employed in surveying. Going out with his regiment to China, in 1857, in the *Transit*, that ship was wrecked in the Straits of Banca. Conveyed to Singapore, orders arrived that the regiment was to be conveyed to Calcutta, the Indian Mutiny having broken out. Wolseley lost all his kit in the *Transit* and did not receive the regulated compensation till after a lapse of three years. Greedy of fighting as he was he had enough at the relief of Lucknow by Sir Colin Campbell to satisfy the greatest glutton. At the head of his company he—specially selected for the duty by the Commander-in-chief—carried the Mess-house, and subsequently, without orders, drove the enemy out of the Moti Mahal. He was exposed during his advance to a heavy fire, and on his arrival found it necessary to send for tools to force an entrance. While waiting for these tools a man who had been his servant was shot from a loophole only six yards distant. Wolseley dashed out from under cover and carried the man in, a bullet aimed at him piercing the body of his inanimate burden as he did so. Sir Colin, a very irascible general, brought up in the stern school of Wellington, was furious with Wolseley for exceeding instructions. Fortunately, before he met him his wrath had somewhat cooled down, and he concluded a severe rebuke by praising the conspicuous gallantry of the delinquent, and promising to recommend him for promotion. For his intrepidity at the storming of the Mess house it was universally believed that he would get the Victoria Cross, for which he had been recommended in the Crimea, but fortune refused him this gift. We may mention, by the way, that on entering the Residency every one said, "Wolseley has got the Victoria Cross." His modest reply was, "No, I was not the first man in; Bugler—was." Undoubtedly Sir Garnet Wolseley has a much better right to this proud distinction than many who have received it. It fell to his duty to clear out the dead Sepoys from the Secunder Bagh, and he mentions it as a curious coincidence that there were 1,857 rebel corpses in the enclosure.

An amusing circumstance took place on the evening of the first night Wolseley passed in the Residency:—

"Wolseley heard Lieut. Carter raging and swearing at some one, and on inquiring the cause

of his subaltern's wrath learned that in the dark some 'beastly nigger' had attempted to place one of the legs of a charpoy, or light wooden bedstead, on his stomach. Lieut. Carter naturally resented this indignity, but the language in which he couched his protest was far from parliamentary, or complimentary to the native in question. After a laugh at this slight contretemps the officers went to sleep. On awaking in the morning, Carter's consternation may be imagined when he discovered that the 'beastly nigger' of the previous night was none other than His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the 'lord of many legions'!"

Wolseley took part in the capture of Lucknow in March, 1858, and when, after the fall of that city, Sir Hope Grant's division was formed, Wolseley was appointed to it as assistant quartermaster general. Constantly employed in the field during the remainder of the war, he was made successively brevet-major and brevet lieutenant-colonel for his services.

He had been but a few months quietly settled down at Lucknow when it was resolved to send Sir Hope Grant to China. Col. Wolseley accompanied him as deputy assistant quartermaster general in charge of the topographical department. As usual, he proved himself active, daring, and useful. At the assault of the Peiho Forts he was under a heavy fire, but escaped untouched. Not so his old comrade of the Crimea, Major Graham, R.E., he,—

"being almost the only mounted officer, offered an easy mark to the Chinese matchlock men; so deafening was the uproar of great guns and small arms at the time that Wolseley, having some remark to communicate to Graham, placed his hand on that officer's thigh to draw his attention. 'Don't put your hand there,' exclaimed Major Graham, wincing under the torture, 'there is a gingall ball lodged in my leg.'"

Wolseley returned home at the close of the war, landing in England in May, 1861, having received no reward for the campaign. His youth—he was only twenty-eight—was probably considered a set-off against his merit. In August, 1861, he became, in the regular course of events, major in the 90th, and, in the January following, he was placed on half-pay to enable him to hold a staff appointment in Canada. To that country he was in December, 1861, sent out as assistant quartermaster general at the time of the Trent excitement. He with brief intervals remained there, first as assistant, and afterwards as deputy, quartermaster general till 1870. The two most noteworthy events of his stay were, first, a visit to the Confederate army, and, secondly, the Red River Expedition. He was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of both General Robert Lee and General Jackson. Each impressed him much, and he formed the opinion "that in military genius Lee has had no superior since the great Napoleon, and he even places him above the great German generals of 1870." Of Jackson he says,— "Jackson is loved and adored with all that childlike and trustful affection which the ancients are said to have lavished upon the particular deity presiding over their affairs." Of the Red River Expedition, which took place in 1870, it is needless to say more in its praise than that it was completely successful, that the physical difficulties triumphed over were very great, and that Wolseley displayed remarkable energy and talents for organization. It was not, however, a campaign, for

not a single shot was fired. On returning from the Red River he proceeded to England, and the Deputy Quartermaster Generalship of Canada having been abolished, he remained on half-pay for a few months. He had become in the regular course of events full colonel in 1865, and in 1870, for past services, was made a C.B., and for the Red River Expedition a K.C.M.G. Appointed assistant adjutant general at the Horse Guards in May, 1871, he was, in 1873, selected for the command of the Ashantee Expedition. This was a duty requiring more administrative and organizing than strategical and tactical skill, for the fighting was, comparatively speaking, slight. There being, however, no other military excitement on foot at the beginning of 1874, the most was made of this bush campaign both by the public and the Government. Mr. Low complains that soldiers do not get their full share of honours, but surely the army had no cause to complain of niggardliness to the Ashantee force. The latter was received with an ovation similar to those which the Romans accorded to their most famous generals, and the press not obscurely hinted that a young Napoleon had been discovered. Sir Garnet himself was created a K.C.B. and a G.C.M.G., promoted, at the early age of forty-one, to the rank of major-general, and presented with the more solid reward of 25,000*l.* He was, indeed, offered a baronetcy, but was shrewd enough to decline the questionable honour. As to the troops, a medal and clasp were struck to commemorate the victory over fever and the momentary occupation of Coomassie, hundreds who had never seen a shot fired or even landed being thus stamped as warriors. Brevets were scattered broadcast, four officers were made K.C.B., twenty-five C.B., and five C.M.G. Appointed Inspector-General of Auxiliary Forces, Sir Garnet Wolseley was in February, 1875, sent out to Natal to put matters right there. He landed in England in October the same year, having successfully carried out his mission, and a year later was offered and accepted a seat at the Council of India. In July this year he was sent out to Cyprus as High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief. We have now brought the sketch of the career of this able soldier and administrator down to date, and it is for the reader to decide whether his rapid advancement has or has not been justified by his capacity and exploits. To speak of him, however, as does Mr. Low, as being indispensable to his country is to injure him by gross flattery. Neither is any one justified in describing him as a great commander, for whatever the promise there has yet been no opportunity of fulfilment. Mr. Low says that "he is *facile princeps*, not only as a soldier and administrator, but as an author, artist, and surveyor." That he is a good military surveyor is no doubt true, though we fancy that in this branch of military science he has not a few superiors. As an author and contributor to periodicals he has won a respectable position, but as a writer of despatches he errs in the direction of prolixity, and would do well to study the Duke of Wellington's despatches, which, though written after great victories, are much shorter and more simple than those sent home from the Gold Coast by Sir Garnet Wolseley. His fame as an artist is the creation of Mr.

Low's fervid imagination. Indeed, throughout this somewhat diffuse book, Mr. Low seems to have been carried away by the idea that it devolves on him to confer greatness. It is a pity that he did not burn at least half of what he has written: the remainder would have been quite proportionate to the importance of his subject.

*New Greece.* By Lewis Sergeant. With Maps. (Cassell, Petter & Galpin.)

MR. LEWIS SERGEANT is an uncompromising advocate of the Greek claims. His main object has been "to bring together and pass under review the many reasons which have been, or may be, urged on behalf of the Hellenic claims." The rehabilitation of the sway of the Porte, in his opinion, is impossible, physically and morally. A single power, he conceives, could not hope to wield authority over the various races of Turkey in Europe—races forced asunder by irreconcilable creeds, by antipathies of history and character, by differences of languages and habits, by animosities which have become inveterate through centuries of oppression. He looks to the establishment of a powerful Greek state as the surest guarantee for the future peace and stability of South-eastern Europe. He would not extend the dominion of the modern Hellenes to other distinct nationalities, but claims on behalf of the existing kingdom of Greece "every province, every city, every coast and island to which the Hellenic race can establish so much as the semblance of an historical title." Greece, in fact, is to become the dominant power on the *Ægean*, the keeper of the Dardanelles, and the ruler at Constantinople. In Europe this new state is to embrace the whole of the region extending from the shores of the *Ægean* to the foot of the Balkans, and from the Black Sea to Monastir and Bitolia. On historical grounds such an extension might, no doubt, be upheld, but certainly not ethnographically, as the author appears to assume, for a great portion of the territory thus claimed is indubitably inhabited by an alien race, and no sneer at "fictitious" ethnography, or appeal to statistics emanating from tainted sources, can avail against that fact. With far more justice might our author have claimed the whole of Albania, for the Skipetars are in some sort the kin of the modern Greeks, they are more readily absorbed by them than are the Slavs, and take kindly to Greek speech and Greek manners.

The interests of England and Greece he assumes to be involved in raising Greece to the rank of a great power. We quite agree with him when he says that a strong Greek kingdom would be more serviceable to England and to Europe than a strong Ottoman empire; but we cannot see how the former is to be largely extended without seriously impairing the strength of the latter. The annexation of Thessaly and Epirus would double the population of Greece, but would still leave it a comparatively weak state, whilst an extension of Greece over Macedonia and Thrace would be tantamount to the destruction of the Ottoman power in Europe, at all events, if not likewise in Asia.

In advocating the claims of Greece the author compares the condition of that country



at the time of the declaration of its independence with what it is now, and in support of his arguments he marshals an imposing array of figures, which amply repays a somewhat careful scrutiny. The struggle between Christian and Moslem left the country a howling wilderness; most of the towns and villages lay in ruins; the fields were untilled, the vines had been uprooted, and the olive plantations destroyed. Far different is the aspect of the country now. Education is eagerly fostered; a stable government, a genuinely progressive and orderly state, has been established; popular liberties are respected; anarchy and lawlessness have been eradicated; justice is dispensed with ability and firmness, and the tribunals deservedly enjoy the respect and confidence of the nation; commerce and industry flourish; and the revenue is steadily increasing, in spite of Greece having been established as a bankrupt state. This, indeed, is a bright picture, but reading between the lines, or referring to the historical chapters, which are written with much ability and general fairness, we are bound to conclude that the aspect of affairs is not quite so promising as the author would have us believe. Much has been done for education, no doubt, but the fact stares us in the face that in 1870 only thirty-three per cent. of the grown-up men and seven per cent. of the grown-up women were able to read and write. Agriculture remains in a deplorable state, industry is far from flourishing, and the large number of lawyers annually sent adrift by the University of Athens cannot compensate for the almost entire lack of technical instruction. In commercial pursuits the modern Greek exhibits a marvellous aptitude, but the finances of the kingdom can scarcely be said to be in a satisfactory condition, in spite of the increasing revenues. Hardly a year ends without a deficit, and it is unfair to make the foreign loans answerable for this state of affairs, as the interest upon these loans has never been paid, and they have not, consequently, proved a burden upon Greek tax-payers. None can deny the great gifts of the modern representatives of the Hellenes, their patriotism, social virtues, hospitality, desire of learning, and political capacity. But it would be idle to conceal that this bright side in the Greek character has its reverse. The modern Greek is too often avaricious, faithless, factious in politics, supremely conceited, and full of craft. It was in the Greeks that the Turk found ready-made tools for carrying on the maladministration of the countries subjected to his sway; and if the hatred between Greeks and Slavs has gained in strength in the course of the last century this is due almost solely to the infamous conduct of the Greek officials and priests who acted at once as the representatives of the State and Church. "The Turk takes one finger, the Greek priest both hands," thus says the Bulgarian proverb. Ignatief's intrigues would never have led to the separation of the Bulgarian from the Orthodox Greek Church, had he not found his mightiest allies amongst the corrupt Greek clergy. As the author says himself, "It is needless to seek in foreign intrigues an explanation of what is more than adequately accounted for by Turkish—and let us add, Greek—misrule."

Those chapters which deal with the history of modern Greece are written with much care

and deserve an attentive perusal. It is not a very inviting picture of European diplomacy and statecraft which the author presents, but one highly instructive to all who would profit from past experiences, and guide their conduct by the lessons they teach. But are there such amongst European statesmen? Our author would seem to despair, and he is able to point to the proceedings of the Berlin Congress in support of his discouragement. We are not disposed to quarrel with his conclusions. He is right, too,—in spite of the many shortcomings of the modern Greeks, the result partly of centuries of oppression,—in looking to the establishment of a powerful Greek empire as the surest means of securing the blessings of peace and civilization to a considerable portion of South-eastern Europe, and as the strongest barrier against Russian aggressions. But the claims of Greeks and Turks are irreconcilable, and if the former are enforced the sway of the latter in Europe will have become a thing of the past.

*Études sur la Littérature Contemporaine.*  
Vol. V. Par Edmond Scherer. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

The fifth volume of M. Scherer's collected literary studies will be welcome to English readers of French literature. M. Scherer has always had a large audience in England and America, the excellences, and perhaps we may add the defects, of his critical method being peculiarly suited to such an audience. What has been in France rather injuriously called his "fiel protestant," that is to say, a strong bias against literary work which does not appear to be guided by moral principles, is appreciated, it appears, less unfavourably on this side of the Channel and on that side of the Atlantic. M. Scherer has, as compared with Sainte-Beuve, the reputation of due consideration "for the cheek of the young person." There is little doubt that he is sometimes prejudiced against writers of the greatest merit by his dislike of their subjects; but when this prejudice does not operate M. Scherer is certainly one of the most acute and capable critics now living, and deserves moreover the greatest credit for his valiant endeavours to preserve the ancient and now sorely menaced purity of French prose. This very volume contains an excellent and much-needed protest against the penny-a-lining slang which is destroying French and English alike, the slang of which he produces an excellent example in the phrase "*un crime venait de s'accomplir dans des conditions d'atrocité inouïe.*" It is to be feared that the withers of English as well as French journalists are wrung by this '*Lettre sur la Déformation de la Langue française.*'

The other essays contained in this volume are almost without exception good examples of M. Scherer's method and powers. The one which English readers will turn to with most interest is that on 'Daniel Deronda,' a capital estimate of that book in particular, and of the merit of George Eliot as a novelist in general. M. Scherer, while he is prodigal of compliments, completely agrees with the opinions expressed by most English critics on the defects of 'Daniel Deronda,' and his remarks, written some time after the completion of the book, on the superiority of Gwendolen and Grand-

court as characters to the nominal hero and heroine of the book, are almost repetitions of what has been said on this side of the water by the "clever critics" with whom Prof. Dowden is so angry. M. Scherer's opinion on this point is particularly valuable, because he cannot be suspected of undervaluing the moral beauty which has sometimes been discovered in George Eliot's Jewish hero.

The longest articles in the book are those on the two Ampères, which preceded and perhaps helped to suggest the somewhat frequent treatments of the same subject which we have had in English. In these articles M. Scherer follows the lead of Sainte-Beuve, and indulges rather in narrative than in criticism. The same is the case with a long article on the correspondence of Lamartine, in which, however, there is interspersed a great deal of fine and delicate critical observation. Lamartine is a writer who is thoroughly within M. Scherer's sphere, and he has taken him in and given him back with admirable completeness. There is more partiality, perhaps, in the review of Eugène Fromentin. Fromentin's literary reputation is partly of M. Scherer's making. He and his followers have exalted 'Dominique' to a position which is, to put the matter mildly, a questionably deserved position, and consequently this posthumous tribute is, in a certain sense, a tribute to the critic's own powers of discernment. At the same time 'Une Année dans le Sahel' and 'Les Maîtres d'Autrefois' no doubt justify the prominence assigned to Fromentin as an artist in two arts. But M. Scherer's almost disdainful reference to Michelangelo's sonnets is characteristic of him.

There is one essay in the book which to our thinking exceeds all the rest in purely literary value, though it is of no great length: this is the article on verse translation, in continuation of a former essay on the same subject. M. Scherer is not a believer in translated poems, and two of his friends, men of letters themselves, MM. Monnier and Amiel, have combated his views both in theory and practice, M. Monnier by publishing a translation of 'Faust,' M. Amiel by a collection of short versions, and both by arguing the point in private and public. The point is of great literary interest, and the arguments are remarkable. M. Monnier, acknowledging that a translation cannot be so good as the original, contends that it may still be good of its kind, and urges, moreover, that translations enrich the tongue into which they are made not merely by so much new matter, but by putting it to a new use, and he quotes Luther's Bible and Amyot's Plutarch as instances. M. Amiel, advancing much the same argument, dwells on the advantage to the translator and reader of the difficulties which have to be surmounted in the task of translation; but they do not convert their judge. He points out that the pleas amount not to "not guilty," but to "extenuating circumstances." Then he shows why he does not think verse translation allowable. It is because the effort to reproduce the form hurts the sense, because French in particular lends itself with peculiar reluctance to the task, and because the effort which is used in the conversion is too evident, and gives to the result too much the effect of a *tour de force*. This last consideration serves M. Scherer as occasion for a tirade against the Parnassian

school, of which he is known to be a deadly enemy. This tirade does not indeed show him at his best, for, as we have said, his unsympathetic criticism is usually weak, and he is obviously incapable of appreciating the merits of the "Parnasse." But the remarks which come before it are worthy the attention of all critics, and may serve to help them in deciding a question which is constantly recurring: are translations in verse worth doing, except as a necessary evil destined for those who do not know the original language? We half suspect from words of M. Scherer's that he would extend this doubt to translations in prose. Now, it so happens that both in England and France, though probably at no time have there been more persons capable of reading foreign and ancient authors in the original than at present, certainly at no time has more labour been spent upon finished and careful translation. The whole theory of translation may indeed be said to have changed in the last few years, and translators often spend more trouble over their reproductions than original authors over their original work. Is this mere lost labour or is it not? M. Scherer evidently inclines to the opinion that it is, or that if not lost labour it is labour merely of study and exercise, and deserves publication little more than the Latin prose and the "construes" of a schoolboy. His opinion is doubtless somewhat weakened by his confession of inability to enjoy the product of this labour. Yet it may be doubted whether not a few English men of letters might not take heed to his words with some advantage to themselves and their readers. The best of the new fashion of translation perhaps is that it obliges the translator to take trouble, and taking trouble is for the most part at the root of literary excellence.

*The Royal Hospital and Collegiate Church of St. Katharine near the Tower in its Relation to the East of London.* By Frederic Simcox Lea. (Longmans & Co.)

THE Royal Hospital of St. Katharine near the Tower was founded in 1148 by Matilda, the Consort of King Stephen, for a master, brothers, and sisters. The queen endowed it with certain estates, and placed its custody in the hands of the monks of the Holy Trinity in Aldgate, reserving to herself and to future queens of England the right of nominating the master upon any vacancy occurring. In the course of time the monastery claimed the property as its own, and a long dispute arose for its possession, which was finally decided by a formal renunciation by the Prior and Canons of all rights of custody in favour of Eleanor, the wife of Henry the Third.

Queen Eleanor granted what may be properly regarded as its foundation charter July 5th, 1273, whereby for the health of the soul of her late husband King Henry, of her own, and of the souls of the preceding and succeeding kings and queens of England, she gave and granted in perpetual alms to God at the Hospital of St. Katharine at London outside the Tower of London, and to Thomas de Lechdale, whom, with the consent of the Bishop of London, she had appointed keeper of the same, and to the brothers and their successors serving and to serve God there, certain premises and hereditaments as a perpetual alms for ever free of all kind of secular

service. By this charter the queen made a reservation similar to that of Queen Matilda of the appointment of the master whenever the office of the same should become vacant, and also retained a power of great importance, that is to say, the power of changing the articles contained in her charter for the bettering of the same as it should seem meet to her and the successive queens of England. The importance of this reservation cannot readily be over-estimated when we come to consider the altered circumstances under which the hospital now exists. With respect to the constitution and functions of the hospital, Queen Eleanor willed that there should be maintained out of the income of the foundation three brother priests, of whom one should daily celebrate the mass of the Holy Virgin Mary, another the mass for the souls of herself, her late husband, and the souls of the preceding and succeeding kings and queens of England, and the third the mass for the day. She further provided that from the income of the foundation there should be given on the day of St. Edmund, Archbishop and Confessor, viz., the 16th of November in each year, which was also the anniversary of her husband's death, to 1,000 poor men the sum of one halfpenny each—a very considerable dole, having regard to the value of money in the Plantagenet days. The same sum was to be given daily during the rest of the year to twenty-four poor men, of whom six were to be poor students, who were, moreover, enjoined to assist in the ministrations of divine service in the hospital when this could be done consistently with the prosecution of their studies. The charter further indicates an intention that the six poor scholars should be more fully rewarded out of the alms of the hospital when by their deserts they should merit it. The charter preserves intact to the brothers and sisters in the hospital such allowances as they have been accustomed to have, and provides for the nomination of other priests, brothers, and sisters when any die. She gave the right of patronage and advocacy to the queens of England for ever, and with a foresight unusual in mediæval founders provided that when in future times the possessions of the hospital should have increased, the number of chaplains, poor men, clerks, laymen, and women should be augmented according to the means available for the purpose. Here, at any rate, there can be no doubt what was the will of the founder, and, setting apart the directions as to masses, it is not difficult to indicate what the Court of Chancery would, under the *cy pres* doctrine, consider proper objects for the application of the funds.

The charter of Queen Eleanor (which is not now extant) was subsequently confirmed, and other property given to the hospital. Queen Philippa, in 1351, seems to have exercised the power reserved in the original charter, and to have modified, or, at least, more clearly defined, the duties of the members of the hospital. The order and discipline of the hospital are provided for down to the minutest details, and the brothers and sisters in the hospital have specific duties assigned to them, and are granted a controlling power in the management of the hospital and its funds; and this latter power is assured by the provision that the seal of the hospital shall be secured with three locks, of which one is to remain in the custody of

the master, one in the custody of the oldest brother, and the other of the oldest sister respectively. Provision is also made for the maintenance of certain poor women in the hospital, and the balance is to be devoted to the rebuilding of the Collegiate Church. No provision appears to be made for the appropriation of the surplus funds after the church shall have been rebuilt, but, as the charter of Queen Eleanor may be regarded as remaining in force except where modified by subsequent charters, they would presumably be applicable to the increase of benefits to the poor set out in the charter of the former queen.

The funds of the hospital were augmented by several subsequent royal grants, and Henry the Sixth, in 1442, constituted the hospital and its precincts a district free from all secular or ecclesiastical jurisdiction save such as should be exercised by the Lord Chancellor and the master of the hospital. The hospital appears to have escaped dissolution under Henry the Eighth through the intercession of Anne Boleyn, and, in the Royal Survey of 1534, the income is returned at 338*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* For some reason which is not clear the estates of the hospital do not appear to have vested in the crown under the 1 Edw. VI. c. 14, the "Act for Chantries Collegiate," and we find Queen Elizabeth, by a charter of July 1st, 1566, reciting the charter of Henry the Sixth, and, with some immaterial exceptions, reordaining it. After the death of Henry the Eighth the masters, however, appear to have been laymen, and not priests, till the present year, when a clergyman was appointed to the mastership.

In 1698 occurred the visitation of Lord Somers, the Lord Chancellor, and the framing of certain rules and orders under which the hospital was subsequently governed. By these orders full provision is made for the celebration of divine service, for the meetings of the chapter and the keeping of records, and for the advancing of possessions and interests of the hospital, whereby the church and other buildings may be kept in repair, and the members may have a more comfortable subsistence, "and their number be increased according to the pious devotion of the royal founders." In case of the increase of the funds of the hospital provision is made for increasing the allowances of the brothers up to 40*l.* a year each, and of the sisters to 20*l.* a year each, and for increasing the salary of the master up to 500*l.* a year, and, if there be still an excess, then to apply it to the addition of another brother, another sister, and two more bedeswomen, and for maintaining a competent number of scholars to be educated in good literature, and providing a schoolhouse and able schoolmaster for their instruction, and for such other good and charitable purposes as are suitable to the intention of the royal founders, and as should be directed, ordered, and established by the royal patron or patroness for the time being. The rules of Lord Somers appear to have been made with the authority of the patroness, Catherine, the widow of Charles the Second; and, as the surplus funds of the hospital are now far in excess of the amount appropriated in these rules and in royal charters for the maintenance of the hospital, it is important to note what were the objects to which such funds were declared to be applicable.



From the date of Lord Somers' visitation in 1698 to 1825, when the hospital was purchased by the St. Katharine's Dock Company, the educational objects indicated in Lord Somers' rules were never carried out. In 1825 the St. Katharine's Dock Company took possession of the site of the hospital and transformed it into a dock and the hospital itself was removed to its present site in Regent's Park. The Dock Company paid 163,000*l.* by way of compensation and towards the cost of the site and buildings in Regent's Park. They also paid considerable sums by way of compensation to the members of the hospital. These payments largely increased the hospital revenues and a scheme for its management was framed by Lord Eldon and carried into effect under Lord Lyndhurst in 1829. By this scheme the income of the money received from the Dock Company was applied in increasing the stipends of the brothers to 300*l.* each, and of the sisters to 200*l.* each, to increasing the stipend of the receiver to 100*l.* a year, to the support and maintenance of a number of additional bedeswomen, and of twenty poor bedesmen, both of which classes were to be appointed by the master from such poor persons as he should think fit. The sum of 300*l.* was to be applied to the maintenance of a school or schools for the education of twenty-four boys and twelve girls, and the binding apprentice of the same. The stipend of the master was increased to 1,200*l.*, that is to say *four times* as much as was devoted to educational purposes! The balance of income was to be devoted to the general purposes of the hospital. Whatever else may be said in favour of this scheme it cannot be said to have been over mindful of the will of the founders, to which so much respect is said to be due. The hospital after this scheme consisted of one master, three brethren, three sisters, twenty bedesmen, and twenty bedeswomen. The office of master was to a large extent a sinecure, and the house provided for him appears to have been let. The brethren performed divine service in turn, and exercised superintendence over the school and some minor matters. The sisters appear to have had no special duties except to receive their stipends and superintend the girls' school; and both brothers and sisters appear to have let the houses allotted to them. The schools were increased in size by warrant under the seal of Queen Adelaide in 1849 to thirty-six boys and twenty-four girls. The number had not been reached at the time of the report of the Royal Commission in 1871.

Beyond the maintenance of a chapel in Regent's Park and of this small school the Hospital does not now seem to discharge any useful functions. In 1866 a report was made to the Charity Commissioners upon the condition of the hospital by one of the assistant commissioners, Mr. Skirrow, from which it appears that the master at that time was the Hon. William Ashley, formerly Vice-Chamberlain and Treasurer to Queen Adelaide. The post has since that time become vacant, and has now, as we have stated, been conferred on a clergyman. One of the brothers was a son of the former librarian of Windsor Castle, and another was formerly domestic chaplain to Queen Adelaide. Of the three sisters one was a lady in attendance on Queen Adelaide, another was a daughter of a canon of Windsor, and the third had been pre-

ceptress to the royal princesses. The receiver of the hospital was a Windsor solicitor. This information is useful as indicating the method in which the Crown exercised its patronage in the hospital,—the mastership, brotherhood, and sisterhood of the hospital constituting some of the pleasantest sinecures in the gift of the Crown. The income of the master included at the time of Mr. Skirrow's report a share in the fines paid for the renewal of leases and the rent of the house appropriated to him in Regent's Park, and amounted to about 2,000*l.* a year. Beyond attending the rare meetings of the Chapter, occasionally visiting the schools, and very rarely attending the chapel service, the master does not seem to have rendered any service whatever in return for this income.

The income of the hospital is expected shortly to reach 10,000*l.* a year, and by a proper utilization of the property in Regent's Park, now used for the master's house and garden, and the residence of the brethren and sisters, might be easily raised to 15,000*l.* a year. The results of the hospital's work are singularly incommensurate with the means at its disposal. The education and clothing of about two score children are all the educational results and the payment of small annuities to twenty bedesmen and twenty bedeswomen seems to be all the almsgiving. There are certain expenses connected with the maintenance of the chapel, but as the pews are paid for this institution might be readily made self-supporting. It would seem that the whole of the useful work now, or at the time of Mr. Skirrow's report, performed by this hospital might be compassed by an outlay of 1,000*l.* a year.

Various proposals have been put forward for the reorganization of the hospital, and Mr. Simcox Lea's book takes to a large extent the same view of what ought to be the provisions of a new scheme as those which were enunciated some years ago on behalf of a committee of the clergy of the East-end of London. Under the scheme prepared on their behalf, the master was to be created a dean, the brethren to be made canons, and the sisters to superintend the bedeswomen, who were to be made nurses. The surplus income was to be devoted to the establishment of new benefices at the East-end of London, in connexion with the Chapter, with considerable salaries, and to ecclesiastical and eleemosynary purposes, including the building of new churches and a provision for the educational wants of the district, and a grant to London Hospital. Claims have been also advanced in behalf of the London Free Hospital and the Parochial Women's Mission Association. In 1869 a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the condition of the hospital, and to submit a scheme for its management. This scheme was duly submitted, and provided for the maintenance of the master, brothers, and sisters, with rights of residence, and also of the bedesmen and bedeswomen. The scheme then goes on to provide for the establishment of an upper school, and the enlargement of the school then in existence, but although this scheme wisely recognizes the educational claims which may be advanced upon the charity funds the objects to be benefited are confined to a small number, and the patronage of the whole remains pretty much in its previous condition.

No scheme has yet, however, been settled and approved by the Crown, and Mr. Lea endeavours to show that the East-end of London has a local claim of the "strongest character" upon the benefits of the foundation. In this effort, however, he can scarcely be said to be successful, inasmuch as the charters are completely silent about the district from which the recipients of the benefits of the charity are to be taken. We use the word "charity" with a certain amount of diffidence, even although the Royal Commission as well as the Charity Commissioners so regard the Hospital, for, according to Mr. Simcox Lea,—

"St. Katharine's Hospital is no more a charity than Westminster Abbey is a charity, and to describe it as such after the true facts of the case are known will leave any writer or speaker open to the charge of discourtesy, directly offered to a caputular body whose personal constitution is worthy of its high and ancient corporate ecclesiastical dignity, and indirectly through the members of the Chapter to the Queen!"

Setting aside the superstitious uses which cannot be said to be fulfilled by the present performance of a reformed worship, it is difficult to see what other than directly charitable ends were contemplated by the founders, but Mr. Simcox Lea's lofty scheme for the institution of a dean and canons and so forth are, of course, inconsistent with a due consideration of these.

Mr. Lea expresses the hope that writers will abstain from attacks upon the "Chapter as a body of persons spending on themselves the funds of a charity intended for the poor—attacks which are as ignorant and unfounded as they are vulgar and offensive." We make no such attacks, but we say that the only remaining objects of the "pious founders" which are capable of being fulfilled in our day are educational and eleemosynary, and that these objects are neither carried out by the present Chapter nor would they be properly carried out by any such scheme as that which Mr. Simcox Lea's book is written to advance.

*Bacon's Novum Organum.* Edited, with Introduction, Notes, &c., by T. Fowler, M.A. (Clarendon Press.)

This new edition of Bacon's most influential work is worthy of the series of English classics that have issued from the Clarendon Press. The editor was in all respects competent, and has done his work with thoroughness and success, "sparing no pains in the attempt," as he modestly says, and as soon becomes apparent to the reader. His text has been carefully collated, and the pregnant Baconian sentences—so full of suggestive force and concentrated strength—are enriched and illustrated by copious notes, which greatly help to elucidate the meaning, although, in the anxiety to supply all needed assistance to a complete understanding of his author, the editor may have sometimes (not often) commented overmuch. The edition ought to take rank as the best for giving a full presentation of the 'Novum Organum,' free from controverted interpretations, and without being loaded by digressions of the kind rather fitted to set forth the editor's opinions than those of his author. Mr. Fowler has kept steadily before him all through that his object was to exhibit Bacon and not himself, and there cannot be a doubt

of the value of the result. He has studied brevity, and has striven to be concise, and to condense always where it is possible to do so without loss. It is scarcely necessary to add that the volume is—as we always expect from the Clarendon Press—a model in regard to the externals of printing and general get-up; and the ample but carefully prepared Index to the text and notes is all the most exacting student could desire. Of the general scope of the Introduction and notes we shall have more to say in a little.

But what need—it may be asked—could there possibly be for a new edition of the 'Novum Organum' when we have already the splendid edition of Bacon's works by Messrs. Ellis, Spedding, and Heath, not to speak of the well-nigh innumerable other forms in which it has been reproduced? The five volumes of the philosophical works in the edition we have named are indispensable to every student of philosophy, and Mr. Fowler has put them largely under requisition in his notes. Nevertheless, he has vindicated a place for his own work, both in the clear explanation of his design in the Preface, and in its accomplishment. He has endeavoured, in addition to supplying a faithful text with such explanations and comments as grapple with its many difficulties, to show us Bacon's precise place in the history of thought, and, therefore, to fix his relations to the history of philosophy, logic, and science. "Throughout my notes and Introduction (Mr. Fowler says) I have had two objects in view—one, to execute as complete an edition as possible of my author; the other, to produce a work of educational value to the student of philosophy, or, generally, of the history of thought and science." It is in the way the latter of these two objects has been fulfilled that the characteristic and peculiar value of Mr. Fowler's work consists. Bacon has suffered at the hands of two opposite sets of critics and commentators. On the one hand, thinkers of the experimental or empirical school, of which he was without question the great founder, have been prone to monopolize him so entirely that they have not infrequently paid scant regard to the traces of other influences, and of the tendencies to a different order of thought which are to be found in his works. On the other hand, he has suffered gross injustice at the hands of thinkers and writers of idealistic tendencies who have under quite other motives followed the example of the experimentalists in unduly narrowing the range of his higher thought and principles, both as to philosophy and theology, and endeavoured to make out that as a mere scientist he discharged no important function for philosophical thought. Mr. Fowler, as it seems to us, admirably holds an impartial balance between these two classes. The position of Bacon being midway between scholasticism and modern philosophy and science, he stands at the opening of the path along which modern thought has since mainly travelled; and amid all his fierce and vehement scorn for the Aristotelian scholasticism, there is yet reason to claim for him a place all his own in the meeting of the counter currents. He was the interpreter of the more or less latent tendencies in the philosophical thought of his own day, and was, therefore, the legitimate precursor of John Locke; yet he was more appreciative of the real influence and power

of general principles and idealistic impulses than the author of the 'Essay Concerning Human Understanding.'

There is no more interesting task in the history of modern philosophy than a comparison of the respective places of, and the respective work accomplished by, Bacon and Descartes. Mr. Fowler would have added to the value of his Introduction if he had bestowed some pains on this analogy or contrast. In the historical order Bacon was prior to the French philosopher, for he was born in 1560, and Descartes's year was 1596. Bacon was the founder of modern empiricism, as Descartes was of modern rationalism (in philosophy, not theology). Their chief works were well-nigh contemporaneous, and the one does not appear to have influenced the other. But both had this in common—that each, from a different point of view, and working for very different results, headed the necessary revolt against scholasticism; for the scholastic rationalism was the Goliath against which Bacon slung his hard-cutting pebbles. A great German philosopher of the idealist school, who suggests the parallel between the English and French philosophers, has observed that with Descartes it was always the object itself, which, through its development, produced science, and not the merely subjective movement of thought as in scholasticism; and it was the same with Bacon, whose philosophy was a philosophy of reality, starting not from thinking, but from facts, or the object as given in experience. Bacon's distinctive service to thought lay in his method. Induction to him was not properly itself science, but only the way to it:—

"I leave (he said) the syllogism to the scholastics, for to me it is useless, since it assumes principles, and these are what I am in search of; I cling to Induction—not to that lowest kind which proceeds by way of mere accumulation, but that kind of induction which, while by aid of true and well-established exclusions and negations it separates the necessary facts from the superfluous, reduces the first to a very small number, and thereby makes so much more easy the discovery of the true causes in the shortest possible space. From these facts so rendered, and always by the light of induction, I shall rise step by step, and with extreme slowness, to particular propositions, from these to mediate, and, finally, from these to *principiis generalissimis et evidentissimis*."

After having found these, resting on them as on a firm foundation,—

"I shall," Bacon goes on, "press forward in my thoughts with boldness, whether it be to prescribe new observations or wholly to make up for the want of observation when it is not possible, and after commencing with doubt [as Descartes did] I shall end with certainty, and hold a true balance between the dogmatic philosophy of the peripatetics [that is, Scholasticism], which begins with what it should end with (viz., general principles), and the wavering philosophy of the sceptics, which stops where one ought to begin."

that is, with doubt. General principles, therefore, were not dispensed with by Bacon as they were by Locke; but he sought them through induction, and through their means expected to attain to certainty. Bacon and Descartes both equally opposed scholasticism, and both equally sought for a philosophy of reality that would give certainty. But whereas Descartes started from an idea or general conception which he obtained by an *a priori* argument independently of all experience, and even of his own starting point, the immediate deliverance of consciousness,

*cogito*, Bacon began with experience, and was, therefore, the leader of empiricism.

Though brought out in a different way, Mr. Fowler's results as to the place of Bacon in the history of, and his relation to, philosophy are identical with what we have here sketched. He was not so much a philosopher himself as a thinker on philosophical questions, who determined the direction in which others afterwards proceeded. And as he was a founder in philosophy of a great movement or wave of tendency, so in science he was a *dilettante*, and, as Mr. Fowler shows, was misled into many scientific errors, even to the rejection of the Copernican system. While pointing onwards to the way of the new movement, for which he provided the method, he adhered in religion to the first principles accepted in his own time, and was a genuine theist; though his "vague ness, uncertainty, or indifference" on many religious points are conspicuous. Mr. Fowler throws much light on Bacon's true position by his admirable discussion of terms and causes, the importance of the method of exclusion, his views on final causes in science, and by some excellent remarks on the revolt against Aristotle. We think Mr. Fowler has had perfect success in making out the importance of understanding Bacon's exact philosophical position in order to clear ideas regarding the history of logic, and the comprehension of its precise position even now. The influence exerted by Bacon upon mental and moral science has been unduly obscured, and we are glad to find it is here put in its true light. Bacon's own contributions to the logic of induction are not to be despised. That it is necessary to lay stress on these points is evident when writers on philosophy in our own day (v. Prof. J. Bowen's recently published work on 'Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Hartmann') question the right of Bacon to any place in its history.

Altogether Mr. Fowler has done a good work thoroughly well, with remarkable brevity and admirable condensation, and yet without omission of what is of real importance. His edition of the 'Novum Organum' cannot fail to have excellent effects from a high educational point of view. No work we have more requires to be studied, or will more richly repay the effort than the 'Novum Organum.' The stimulating influence and, therefore, intellectually elevating effect of its terse and weighty sentences can scarcely be overestimated; and we cannot imagine a time when the intellectual education of Englishmen will have advanced to such a high point that they will not be the better of communion with the master-mind of English scientific and philosophic thought.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*You Play Me False.* By Mortimer and Frances Collins. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)  
*The Monks of Thelema.* By W. Besant and J. Rice. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)  
*The Andreds Weald.* By the Rev. A. D. Crake. (Parker & Co.)  
*A Life's Hazard; or, the Outlaw of Wentworth Waste.* By Henry Esmond. 3 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)

ANOTHER novel, the sixteenth in ten years, has appeared under the name of Mortimer

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Collins. Mrs. Collins, who always assisted her husband in his work, must be principally responsible for this book, which, though a good deal in the old style, bears the marks of feminine authorship. We should fancy the plots of Adela and Miss Best against the heroine's peace of mind to be the work of a lady. They are ingenious enough, and the story generally not bad; but we notice a slip in a classical quotation, and some of the verses are not up to the old mark. The main idea, an unconventional marriage between a peer and a governess, and the strange introduction of the two, the lady striking her lover to her feet by taking a header into the sea, are characteristic.

We know not whether the authors of 'Ready Money Mortiboy' are more successful in describing the pleasant fooling of the community of Thelema, a virtuous Medmenham with honourable men and charming ladies as its inmates, or in their satire on divers kinds of intellectual and artistic prigs. Very happily treated are the solemnities of the order, the court of Love, and the award of the prize of beauty to the fairest of the Weyland rustics, the last a specially good bit of writing. But perhaps still better handled is Mr. Paul Rondelet, of Lothian College, Oxford, the prophet of that mysterious School of Thinkers who "keep the Renaissance bottled up for themselves," circulate little poems, live well, sigh over the ignorance of their elders, and talk of the "higher thought, the nobler aim, the truer method." Nothing is more characteristic of Rondelet than his wooing of Miranda, the abbess and the heroine. He is driven to this step by the awful thought that his fellowship is about to expire, and that he will have literally no means on which to live the higher life, except by taking orders. He, therefore, offers to share that life with the richest and most beautiful woman of his acquaintance. He is good enough to say that in women the higher receptivity alone is required. Miranda's mode of silencing him, *more Socratico*, as to his pretensions (to snub him was impossible), is very delicious, though the scene is too long to transcribe. Foiled in this speculation, he obtains a temporary endowment of research from his quondam disciple Alan, and at length takes the cold plunge into writing for the penny press. "It is not writing for the common herd any longer, it is 'swaying the masses.'" A cheerful contrast to the prophet of the higher criticism is honest Alan Dunlop, who, having some vigour underlying his "culture," tries to translate the "enthusiasm of humanity" into work, and goes about with a smock-frock and a dung-fork among the Weyland labourers. As he is owner of the land for miles around, no one thwarts his efforts openly; though his uncle, Lord Alwyne (an amusing specimen of an elderly gentleman quite on the "lower levels") goes so far as to write that "if he should propose to part with the property for any philanthropic schemes, I think I would go the length of locking him up in a private lunatic asylum, where they will tickle the soles of his feet with a feather." His schemes all fail, from a succession of practical difficulties, the first being that he is a man utterly without humour, and that his sympathies are all in the abstract. But he is intended to earn our respect and does so, and when he has got so far as to find out that

Miranda is too well worth loving to be sacrificed for a matrimonial experiment with one of "the people," the reader has hopes that Dunlop may yet succeed in understanding other facts about humanity. Besides these main currents of the narration, there are minor points that are amusing. Such is the part played in Alan's fortunes by the Bostock family. Both Bostock and his wife are described by one who knows the small farmer. Such, too, is the episode of the "sinful brother" Peregrine, whose masquerading as a single man causes such woe in the abbey. The characters are all well drawn, and not one of them exaggerated, and the tone of the book is uncommonly wholesome.

'The Andrede-Weald' is a tale of the Norman Conquest, forming one of a series of "tales illustrating Church history." It would be a good and pleasant story for boys, if it were not specially important that boys should be set to read nothing but what is polished, or, at all events, correct in style. Mr. Crake's style is certainly not polished, and it lapses now and then into actual incorrectness, both of fact and of grammar. Thus, we hear of "Ethelred the Unready, as men called him, because his hand was *never ready* for good, or to defend his land, but only *too ready* for evil," which is altogether an inexact explanation as it stands. Such expressions as "the rest of my brothers, including myself," and such slipshod writing as "we were very silent, dear mother asked me whether any signs had been seen at sea," abound throughout the book. If it were not for these faults of manner, the tale might be recommended for juvenile reading; but in that case we should have another reservation to make in respect of the stiff and spiritless illustrations.

The holiday task of the reviewer would be indeed merry if books like 'A Life's Hazard' were frequently published. Mr. Henry Esmond is a burlesque writer of unusual brilliancy. As this is a tale of Irish life, of course originality would not be too rigorously demanded, but when, in addition to the usual reminiscences of 'Handy Andy' and a few more old and valued friends, an *olla podrida* of Harrison Ainsworth, Mrs. Crowe, Miss Braddon, Mr. Boucicault, and Mr. Edmund Falconer's weakest points is served up to us, it is not difficult to imagine the drollery of the intellectual repast. The dialogue and manners of various persons of "quality" represented are portrayed after the fashion of weekly miscellanies of the "penny dreadful" type. Here is a specimen from the mouth of Sir Mervyn Mervyn, a baronet and a "rale gintleman entoirely":—

"You, Mr. O'Grady must henceforth become my thought night and day, how to undo the past, restoring you to that society which you were made to adorn. English though I am, I cannot doubt that natures such as thine ought never to be placed unprepared face to face with seeming wrong, for like all that is generous and noble you yearn to share the cause wherein yourself is sacrificed."

The passage is given verbatim. The book must be read if the plot is to be rightly appreciated. Secret springs, treasure chambers, apparitions, birds of ill-omen of amazing docility, storms, wrecks, ruins, rebels, and rapparees abound. But the author's notions of law are the chief triumph of his humour. A trial of "that grate warrior," the outlaw, for high treason, is diversified by the death of the Attorney-General for Ireland

in open court, an incident unknown, we fancy, to historians. The prisoner, with more effect than relevancy, calls witnesses to prove that the law officer of the Crown, years before, while a student at College, stole a watch, whereat the conscience-stricken man incontinently gives up the ghost! Another wicked Saxon, Col. Bagshot, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland's aide-de-camp, who is seven times in six pages described as "the very gentlemanly military old man," is publicly detected, with his wife and daughter, cheating at cards, to which he adds the unusual military accomplishment of picking pockets!

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society have just issued their *Proceedings* during the year 1877, being Volume XXIII. of the entire series. The President Bishop Clifford's opening address contains a careful historical and topographical account, with map of King Alfred's movements in Somerset. A plan from an "accurate instrumental survey," accompanies a paper 'On the Megalithic Antiquities at Stanton Drew,' by Mr. C. W. Diamond, C.E. The stones now remaining are sixty-six in number, being portions of three circles. The paper on the 'MS. Accounts of the Commonalty of Bridgwater' contains among many curious entries a charge for "the labour of John Paris riding to Taunton for a prior for the blessing of the town xlii.; and again "For a reward given to a priest for naming a proctor at the Roman Curia, for the benediction of the town, vis. viiij." Appended to the *Proceedings* is a copy of the churchwardens' accounts of the church and parish of St. Michael Without the Northgate, Bath, edited, with an introductory summary, by the Rev. C. H. Pearson. These accounts are the oldest of the kind, it is believed, yet printed, ranging from A.D. 1349 to A.D. 1575, (the earliest notices by Nicholls are in 1427). They are written on seventy-seven rolls of parchment, all in Latin, except ten in English, though occasionally a mixture of both languages occurs, and in one instance there is an entry combining three tongues: A.D. 1473, "Joh' Smythe pro emendacione de le locke in the Tower 1d." In 1349 2s. is left, by will of Wm. de Wyke towards a missal, 2d. is paid for a skin to bind it, and 46s. 2d. is the cost of the missal itself. In 1439 a manual was bought at Bristol for 16s. 8d., 1s. 6d. more being spent "on two men going on horseback to fetch the said book." A charge for preparing the floor for seats appears as early as A.D. 1426. In 1441 there is 8d. "Pro una sede de Thom. Bradway," and there are various later notices of the same kind. In 1534 we have "jd. sol. in Visitacione domini Cantuarensis," marking the visitation by Cranmer, of whose personal presence in the West of England Dean Hook has omitted any statement. Under 10th Eliz. occurs "12d. to the ryngers to ryng when the Duke came yn." The editor asks "What Duke was this?" we can reply that it was the Duke of Norfolk, who is stated in Bristol chronologies to have come A.D. 1568 from "Bath to Bristol upon Trinity Sunday, accompanied by the Earl of Worcester" and others, "but he was sent for by the Queen from hence with all speed." He was soon after beheaded. The high altar was pulled down, 3rd Edward the Sixth, at a cost of 16d., and 6d. for "washing the altar-place with lyme." In 1552 there are charged "for the stufe and makynge the Communion table" 6s. 8d.; and 2s. for the "servyse Boke in Inglysyche." It would appear that cottages were but of one story and without chimneys, only smoke holes:—1430 "in factura de duo smoke holys in domo Wi. Osborne 3½d." In 1460 a mason received 6d. a day and his assistant 3d. a day. Wages for labour seem to have continued the same to 1531, a carpenter being then paid 18d. for three days *in tasco*. In 1575 freemasons received 1s. a day, and their men 7d.; beer was then 3d. a gallon for labourers. In 1482

there is a notice of miracle plays, including "2 dosyns of beer for the same play, 4s. 4d." The accounts were rendered originally on the Feast of the 11,000 Virgins, but, 18th Henry the Eighth, it was ordered that the reckoning should be on the Lord's day after that feast under pain of forfeiture to the church of one pound of wax."

MESSRS. GILL & SON have sent us a specimen sheet of the translation into Irish of *The Imitation of Christ*, by the late Rev. Daniel O'Sullivan. The defects of the first edition, issued in 1822, are such as were to be expected in the then neglected condition of the language. The book has not been altered in any way but what was necessary to bring it to the standard of O'Donovan's Grammar and other accepted authorities, which the editor believes he has carefully done.

*Petőfi-Reliquiák*, 1841-1849. Gyűjtötte Halasi Aladár. (Buda Pest, Franklin-Társulat.)—Petőfi literature threatens to become quite as voluminous as that dedicated to the most illustrious authors of this century. The last twenty pages of this latest addition to the cairn are devoted to an index to the bibliography of the famous Hungarian, and yet to our knowledge—the copiousness of the catalogue notwithstanding—this list is far from complete. Little as England has contributed towards diffusing a knowledge of the great Magyar poet-patriot and his works, the editor of this collection of 'Relics' may be assured that Sir John Bowring's incomplete and incorrect collection is by no means the only authority this country possesses upon the subject of Petőfi. Nor are the French, Italian, and German sections of the index so extensive as further research might make them; nevertheless, as the latest if not the only classified information upon the subject, these data will be found of great importance to students of the poet's life and works. To the general reader the letters, dramatic fragments, poems and journalistic records which constitute the larger portion of this brochure will, naturally, be the attraction; and, although much of the matter here gathered together has been previously published, it has been in such out-of-the-way nooks and forgotten publications that most of it would have perished had not the research and industry of the editor rescued it from oblivion. All thanks, therefore, be to him and to his coadjutor, Paul Gyulai, brother-in-law of Petőfi, and the historian of his country's literature, for the much that they have preserved. The excerpts from Petőfi's journals, his proclamations to his countrymen and other official documents now gathered together will, doubtless, prove invaluable not only to the poet's future biographers, but to the historian of Hungary's revolutions; those desirous, however, of attaining a comprehensive grasp of Petőfi's private character rather than his public career will turn with pleasure to the charming unofficial correspondence with his literary contemporaries. His letters to János Arany, Hungary's chief living poet, are replete with naïveté, and depict him in quite an opposite light to that in which his opponents would portray him: the fiery republican instead of being seen fulminating fierce manifestoes against a recreant aristocracy and an alien despot is beheld holding forth a friendly hand to his latest literary rival, and describing with almost childlike simplicity the placid enjoyments of domestic life. In any future collections of literary correspondence specimens of these charming letters should be included. One of the most curious documents reproduced in this little volume is the "personal description" given in the warrant issued by Prince Windischgrätz for Petőfi's apprehension. It reads thus: "Age: 36. Place of Birth: Siebenbürgen. Condition: Respectable. Religion: Reformed Church. Language: German, Hungarian, and Wallachian. Occupation and character: formerly poet. Build: slender. Face: thin. Colour of face: brownish. Forehead: high. Hair: black and standing up. Eyes: black. Nose: broad. Mouth: well proportioned. Teeth: good. Chin: rather pointed. Beard: mustachios. Marked characteristics: is accustomed to wear his neck bare. Garb: in the German style." This descrip-

tion was erroneous in many respects, such as in adding ten years to the age, in name of birthplace, and so forth; but what chiefly enraged Petőfi was the statement about the costume, he being in the habit of dressing in the national Hungarian garb; "formerly poet" also greatly excited his wrath. On the vexed question of Petőfi's death the present volume proffers no information.

MR. GOWING has edited and Messrs. Grant & Co. publish *The School Board Directory*, giving a list of English and Welsh school boards and school attendance committees, with the names of the chairmen, clerks, &c. The book promises to be useful.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Theology.*  
 Adams's (N.) At Eventide, Discourses, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
 Ferguson's (F.) Popular Life of Christ, 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
 Huntington's (F. D.) The Fitness of Christianity to Man, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
- Fine Art.*  
 Gladstone (Rt. Hon. W. E.) from *Judy's Point of View*, Cartoons, 4to. 2/6 swd.
- Poetry.*  
 Vedder's (D.) Poems, Lyrics, and Sketches, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
- Law.*  
 Chambers's (G. F.) Law Relating to Rates and Rating, Imp. 8vo. 12/ cl.
- Music.*  
 Novello's Music Primers, Fugue, by J. Hlg, 8vo. 2/ swd.
- History and Biography.*  
 Gough's (J. B.) Life and Times, 1817-1878, by Rev. J. Thomas, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
 Floetz's (K. A.) Manual of French Literature, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
 Stevens's (A.) History of Methodism, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
- Geography.*  
 Helfer's (Dr. and Madame) Travels in Syria, Mesopotamia, &c., by Madame Helfer, rendered into English by Mrs. G. Sturge, 2 vols. 8vo. 21/ cl.
- Philology.*  
 Eschylus's Prometheus Bound, Introduction and Notes by A. O. Prickard, fcap. 2/ cl.  
 German Classics, Schiller's Egmont's Leben und Tod, Die Belagerung, with English Notes by C. A. Buchheim, 2/6 cl.  
 Tacitus, the sixth Book of the Annals, edited, with Notes, by Rev. A. J. Church and Rev. W. J. Brodribb, fcap. 2/6 cl.
- Science.*  
 Bazley's (T. S.) The Stars in their Courses, folio, 15/ cl.  
 Bourne's (J.) Examples of Steam, Air, and Gas Engines, 70/ cl.  
 Henman's (A.) Anatomical outlines, Part 2, 4to. 3/6 swd.  
 Hughes's (J.) Practical Course of Arithmetic, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
 Liveing's (R.) Handbook of the Diagnosis of Skin Diseases, 12mo. 4/6 cl.
- General Literature.*  
 About some Fellows, or Odds and Ends from My Note-Book, by an Eton Boy, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
 Doudney's (S.) Monksbury College, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
 Goddard's (J.) Kasper and the Summer Fairies, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
 Golden Legend (The), with an Introduction, by A. Aspland, folio, 31/6 cl.  
 Hope's (A. R.) Young Rebels, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.  
 Owens College Calendar for the Session 1878-9, 3/6  
 James's (H.) The Europeans, a Sketch, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.  
 Mapother's (M. J.) The Donalds, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Pictorial Cabinet of Marvels, 4to. 6/ cl.  
 Shipton's (A.) Gathered Herbs, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
 Tylocat's (F. J.) Sunshine through the Clouds, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

## EARLY REFERENCE TO A PASSAGE OF 'PERICLES.'

IN 'Law Tricks,' a play by John Day, occurs the following passage:—

JOCULO. But, Madam, do you remember what a multitude of fishes we saw at sea? And I do wonder how they can all live by one another.

EMILIA. Why, fools, as men do on the land, the great ones eat up the little ones. Sig. 2, recto.

Clearly these words are taken from the fishermen's colloquy in 'Pericles,' Act ii. sc. 1:—

3 FISH. Master, I marvel how the fishes live in the sea.  
 1 FISH. Why, as men do a-land, the great ones eat up the little ones. ....

The play of 'Pericles' was not published till 1609, while 'Law Tricks' appeared in 1608. But George Wilkins's novel, founded on the play of 'Pericles,' bears date 1608; and, consequently, 'Pericles' must have been acted at least as early as 1607. That Day filched from the play, and not from the novel, is clear by turning to the fourth chapter of the novel. There the passage in question runs thus:—"Again comparing our rich men to whales that make a great shew in the world, rowling and tumbling up and downe, but are good for little but to sink others: that the fishes live in the sea as the powerfull on shore, the great ones eat up the little ones." It will be seen that Day is much closer than Wilkins to the common original. Accordingly, Day was either present at the performance of 'Pericles' or saw the play in manuscript,—unless, indeed, we choose the con-

trary hypothesis, and suppose the notable conversation of the fishermen to have been suggested to Shakespeare by the passage in 'Law Tricks'!

In the same play of Day's we meet with one of Pistol's favourite exclamations:—

What ominous news can Polymetes daunt?  
 Have we not Hiren heere. Sig. 2, recto.

A. H. BULLEN.

## EBENEZER JONES.

THE friends and admirers of Ebenezer Jones are indebted to Mr. Shepherd for his monograph, and to you for calling attention to it. He, however, like Mr. W. B. Scott, and everybody who comes to write about Ebenezer Jones, falls strangely into error as to certain prominent facts of his life. He was not a "Chartist" in the technical sense of that word. His quarrel was not so much with princes and nobles as with the plutocrats who, day by day, are getting the country—princes and nobles and peasants—under their vulgar feet.

That tremendous "Coming Cry" which W. J. Fox used to recite with such gusto at the National Assembly Hall, Holborn, was an invective against mammon-worship rather than against feudalism; and never was hatred of "King Plutus" more vigorously expressed than in the 'Song of the Kings of Gold.' But as is usual with Jones, so intense is his own passion that he makes even the plutocrats sublime when he gives them voice:

In a glorious sea of hate,  
 Eternal rocks we stand;  
 Our joy is our lonely state,  
 And our trust our own right hand;  
 We frown, and nations shrink:  
 They curse, but our swords are old;  
 And the wine of their rage deep drink  
 The dauntless Kings of Gold.

(Chorus)—We cannot count our slaves,  
 Nothing bounds our sway;  
 Our will destroys and saves.  
 We let, we create, we slay—  
 Ha! ha! who are gods?

Again, he did not marry Edwin Atherstone's daughter, but a niece of the bard of Nineveh. Again, "his day of poetry" was not (as Mr. Scott more beautifully than accurately puts it) "his day of love" (unless, indeed, his long "day of love" of his elder sister and brother Sumner be intended); for the book was not only written, but brought out, before he ever met his future wife; and the love poems in the volume were inspired by another woman altogether. Again, he was not "rendered miserable" by the strictures of Thomas Hood upon his more passionate poetry; he did not "call upon Hood," "proud to be invited," and "see Hood in bed"; he never saw Hood in his life. His brother Sumner sent the volume to Hood (whom he knew), and Hood wrote to Sumner a letter in which blame was mixed with praise. Again, Ebenezer Jones did not "write a pamphlet on the currency"; he knew nothing about "currency" practically or theoretically. The Rogerses alone can mix poetry with currency; but, then, the "auriferous amalgam" is not of much account on Parnassus. Again, he did not "abandon poetry" (he wrote a poem almost with his dying hand, and sent it to the Cornhill). If he told Mr. W. B. Scott (and I am sure he did, as Mr. Scott says so) that he "could not think a single poetic idea, or coin a single rhyme," he said it in one of those temporary fits of despondency which Mr. Scott, being a man of genius himself, may very likely know now and then, as well as the rest of them. In fact, he did nothing whatever that those who have written about him say he did. I am not surprised at this. I have long given up belief in "facts" as the iddest of all superstitions. Yet the "facts" of Ebenezer Jones's life—if they can only be seized—are well worth preserving. Unknown as his poems are to the general reader, his influence has been so great upon those who have greatly influenced others that no student of nineteenth century poetry can leave him unread. And if poems which have had the admiration of such men of various generations as (to go by ages) Barry Cornwall, R. H. Horne, Lord Houghton, Mr. W. B. Scott, Mr. Browning, Mr. Allingham, Mr. Rossetti, and Mr. Swinburne are of sufficient importance to be properly placed



and appraised in our literature, Ebenezer Jones as a mere *personality* is of more importance still. Among men who have expressed themselves in English verse I greatly doubt whether a more robust personality has appeared since Byron. Jones wrote in verse simply because feeling so intense as his,—passion so fiery,—cannot be expressed in prose—*must* be expressed in some kind of rhythmical form. A man may be a born rhythmist and yet not a born poet, just as Mr. Carlyle has shown us that a man may be a born poet and yet not a born rhythmist. With Jones, paramount to every requirement of art was that he should truly and sincerely say what he truly and sincerely had to say; and so that he does this he who could sometimes write so musically will rest content with lines that bruise the ears like flints—lines which would have driven mad Mr. Hayley and killed off Samuel Jackson Pratt. But, even for rhythm, it would take many Pratts and Hayleys to produce lines like these, uttered in 'Ways of Regard' by a revolutionary slave whose daughter has been ravished by his master:—

Slaves! Brothers, are we  
Already cursed! Damned are we to endurance,  
To acquiescence, to contentment! Oh, not so!  
The habit of obedience hath not slain ye!  
Arise, shake out the fetters from your souls;  
And they will leave your limbs! All is not lost.  
Hear me, oh hear me! We no more are slaves!—  
Have we not hearts like men? do we not feel  
The voice of kindness; contemplate with pleasure  
The joys of life; are not our senses human;  
Own we no love; can we no love return?  
Oh! being men, they who would hold you slaves  
Do murder you *alive*! They blind your minds  
With writhing toil, and say you have no sight;  
They break you from the majesty of man  
Into gaunt monsters, crooked miseries,  
And call you brute-like,—trample down your hearts,  
And say you have none,—banish from your souls  
The light of knowledge, and proclaim you soulless,—  
Rend you from God, and say you are not men:—  
But that we *are*, witness this hungering dagger,  
Which through his troop of hireling cut-throats,  
And through his massive towers and through his silks,  
Shall reach my daughter's ravisher's heart, and stab  
Right through its damned core, there thundering,  
The MAX, your slave! Ah! have you no daughters?  
Where are your wives? your sweethearts? Spitten upon!  
Beaten in the face while ravished! Ha! you start!  
Prove, prove that you are men! Revenge, Revenge!  
They bade us feed on grass—we will grow drunk  
With their red blood: they trample us as snakes—  
We will rise dragon-like, and with our fetters  
Act—inconceivably!—Revenge! Revenge!  
Not that they violate our wives for sport,  
And laugh at our unnatural endurance,—  
Not that they tear our children from their mothers,  
Crippling their limbs, extinguishing their minds  
With endless toil,—the only things that love us,—  
Not that our food is garbage; that our babes  
Drop at the milkiest test,—not that they dare,—  
Oh shameless beasts!—unnaturally deprive  
Our youth of manhood—  
But because that they have so damned us  
That we've endured these shames! Oh—for this murder,  
This poisoning, this pollution, this dead life,  
What, WHAT revenge? They lash us into smiles—  
God! we will rush through blood up to our armpits!

My purpose, however, is not to criticize, but to give a hurried glance at Jones's life, of which his poetry is the faithful expression; and to do so I must glance at two people quite as remarkable as himself, his sister and brother, Mary and Sumner Jones. Amid a press of other matters I think it my duty to do this at a moment when some little attention is given to him; for, with the materials at my command, I am, I fear, the only man who can.

He was the third child of a family than which not even the Brontës were more remarkable for precocity—perhaps not even for genius. From a certain point of view, indeed, the Brontë children were not half so wonderful as these. Isolated from social intercourse as were the little poets of Haworth, it is a great mistake to speak of them as though circumstances had shut them out from all that is richest in life. They had Nature, and they had books. Without any kind of restraint, they could and did get very close indeed to the sacred heart of the Great Mother; without restraint, they could and did get very close indeed to the sacred heart of Man. Did they really need much more? The mystery and infinity of Nature are never more intensely felt than by a child watching the sun sink on a Yorkshire moor; the insignificance of the tangible earth as contrasted with the encircling masterdom of the holy skies is more impressive to the truly poetic soul than all the material grandeurs of an Alpine

sunset. And then "a Yorkshire wind" is the weirdest sound that can come to the human ear. And when they were tired of the sun and wind, they could turn into the parsonage, and hold communion with the elect of the earth. Place a vigorous young soul, then, in Haworth parsonage, with the uncanny Patrick Brontë for a father; feed it with such pabulum as Nature, backed by Shakespeare, Milton, Scott, can afford, and if it does not fly high it is because it is not winged for high flying. But place it within the brick desert of London, or amid the still more dreary piles of suburban cockney villas—more lonely to the poetic soul than "the lonely bricks of Babylon"; place it moreover in the midst of a narrow set of British bigots, with parents to teach it that the very sun was sinful when he shone out too joyously over a "vale of tears," teachers who tabooed all carnal books, such as Shakespeare and Milton and Scott and Shelley—tabooed all books, indeed, save such approved guides through "the wilderness of this world" as 'The Assembly's Catechism,' Dr. Watts's Hymns, 'Zion's Trumpet,' 'The Cymbals of Jesus,' and 'Look out for the World to Come'—place, I say, the tender, sensitive young soul in such a Sahara as this, and then see what will become of it. This was only one forlorn side of the forlorn fate of three of the most sensitive, poetic, and finely-endowed children then living in England—Mary, Sumner, and Ebenezer Jones.

In Canonbury Square, Islington, close by the well-known old Canonbury brick tower, their early childhood was passed. Ebenezer was born there on the 20th January, 1820. Their father, Robert Jones, a gentleman of Welsh descent, was twice married. His second wife, Hannah Sumner (of a well-known Essex family), was the mother of the children. They and all their immediate connexions were Calvinistic dissenters, not of the kind familiar to us at this day, but of a narrow and bigoted type, which is now quite passed away. I may therefore speak frankly of them without giving offence. There was at that time among all dissenting bodies a kind of clergyman known as the "tea-and-toast parson." His cognomen denotes his function. But it was in the period of early dinners, and butter, then, was cheap. The tea-and-toast parson is also extinct, and I may speak of him without offence. The Joneses were in comfortable circumstances,—as was necessary, indeed, to enjoy the intimacy of the kind of parson I am glancing at. The house became a famous rendezvous for the species and the deacons, their toast-devouring allies; some went so far as to call it "a little Heaven below,"—a poetic phrase of Dr. Watts's, I believe. The children, however, took an entirely different view of the symposium. Their life was one of sadness spiced with terrors. While the piles of toast were fading before the unctuous faces of the parsons like mist before the sun, the children, as they helped to wait upon them, were being tortured on one side of the table with abstruse questions of Bible chronology, and on the other with harrowing enigmas about their latter end. Had they been common children this would not have mattered: religion in any form is better than none. But these three were as full of the potentialities of genius as the "nightingale's eggs" are full, we are told, of the potentialities of song. Now the worthy parsons I have alluded to looked upon them not as nightingale's eggs at all, but as the common Calvinistic egg of Canonbury—to be duly hatched by them and saved for Canonbury and from perdition—unless, indeed, they happened to be before doomed to other uses in the Calvinistic economy. Hence, with the best intentions, they contrived to take out nearly all the beauty from their young lives—contrived to make them three of the most unhappy children in London. The cramping of the soul was fearful. It was very sad; for the children were as winsome as they were gifted. Mary, the eldest, a curly-headed girl with lovely brown eyes

That seemed to love what'er they looked upon,  
had an unutterable yearning to look upon the world with a joyful gaze, poor thing! but then it was "desperately wicked" to consider it as any-

thing but a "vale of tears." Yet she could not, for the life of her, help loving passionately the daisies and violets of spring and the summer nightingales that then could be heard in Canonbury, though her heart trembled at the deadly sin of such carnal joys. Some children take to reading as a duck takes to water. They devour everything in the shape of print, and never forget it. Mary was one of these. But, alas! reading brought her no comfort; it only deepened her gloom; it only added another shade to the darkness of the copper skies overhead. Instead of stories of Jack and his giants,—instead of dreams of Oberon, Puck, and Titania,—she had stories of the adventures of Apollyon, pictures of the Slough of Despond, and harrowing visions of the Bottomless Pit. The very house smelt of sulphur. How far happier for her had she never been taught her letters! The stars and flowers and birds must and would have spoken truly to her then. Yet she was not entirely without her joys either. It is a wonderful thing that every living creature, however wretchedly placed, has its joys. A toad enclosed in a stone comes at last to get such comfort out of its age-long contemplations in the chilly darkness that it will crawl back to its cell the moment you remove it, and ask you to kindly shut out the light again. Mary's joys were in her two brothers, Sumner and Ebenezer, who were daily and hourly growing into sweet consciousness and companionship. The blessing they were to her, however, is in a measure calculable: the blessing she was to them is beyond all imagining. This is what I mean: the hedge that encloses Paradise, says an Eastern writer, bristles with deadly prickles on one side, while the other is nothing but a dewy wall of amaranthine flowers. Such a hedge encircling the two little boys within the Paradise of Childhood from the withering sulphur that filled the house was Mary. Though she breathed it pure and poisonous herself, it could not be given back to them filtered through so sweet a nature as hers without being in some degree tempered by her sweetness and coloured by her beauty. This was what just saved them. And she had her reward, as I am going to show.

When the circumstances in which the poetic soul are placed are peculiarly cruel, there are three different tempers in which they may be confronted: there is the temper of resignation and "sweet acceptance" tinged with humour, such as we see in Hood, in Leigh Hunt (after his early and purely factitious turbulence), in Burns (after he had settled down to gauging), and in John Clare; there is the temper of fierce and dauntless revolt, such as we see in Ebenezer Elliot and Thomas Cooper; and there is that temper of fretfulness and repining which is so generally understood to be the proper poetic mood, that the poets of our day, whether in adverse circumstances or not, look around them, the moment they begin to write, for subjects to fret about. Of Mary's two brothers, one was the very type of manly resignation to whatsoever ill was proved to be inevitable; the other was the very type of "revolt" against the powers that be. When they came, in a little while, to write poetry, this is how Sumner wrote, though then not much more than a boy:—

Never will I such wrong  
Offer to glorious song,  
In whose bright service all my youth was spent  
As it would be to raise,  
For dearth of pelf or praise  
Or ill incurred, least murmur of lament.

And, on the other hand, how Ebenezer wrote the stanza given above will show. Sumner, in short, was like his sister, studious, dreamy, enjoying reverie more than action,—curly-headed, too, and brown-eyed, like her. Ebenezer was full of enthusiasm and indomitable energy, with a bearing so proud and fearless that he looked two or three inches taller than he really was. Hence Mr. Dante Rossetti, Mr. W. B. Scott, and others speak of a man of five feet seven as "tall."

If his eyes were blue (as some have described them), it was the blue not of the violet but of bright Damascus steel. Yet, on occasion, this kind of blue can become softer than any other. When a

child of eight, a certain usher in a Highgate school, famous for flagellations and prayers, was astounded to hear, in the commanding voice of an angry man, the words, "You shall not," come from a little chap, as he rushed defiantly across the schoolroom to prevent the pedagogue from hurling downstairs a poor homeless dog, that had entered the schoolroom for shelter. But when the heavy thud of the dog, as he fell crushed on the floor below, struck the little champion's ear, it was he, and not one of the more timid pupils, who threw his hands before his eyes and burst into a passion of tears: tears which stopped, however, the moment the "strap" for insubordination was applied.

Having revolted against the schoolmaster's cruelty, he proceeded to revolt against the schoolmaster's educational system; for not even at school had the children been permitted to do much more than learn the lights and shades of those doctrines which appalled them at the unæsthetic teas. Their schools had been carefully selected less for educational advantages than because they were conducted by divines of the tea-and-toast persuasion. Ebenezer was famous as being the first who had defied the strap and the first who had dared to enter the domain of Belial, the world of poetry and romance. This is how he did it: it was "a pursuit of knowledge under difficulties" indeed. The playground fence was bordered by beeches and poplar trees. In play hours he would steal away from sport, and, climbing into the branches of one of these trees, forget all about 'The Assembly's Catechism' in the magic world of the Waverley Novels. Moreover, he began to write verse there—almost before he had managed to read any. Among Mary's treasured papers these precocious lines (hitherto unpublished) were found after her death. The date upon them shows they were written in his fourteenth year:—

See, sister, yonder is the bank  
Where the dragon-flies did play;  
How often I have broke the rank  
Of schoolfellows and stole away  
To climb that very beechen tree  
To con some old romantic story  
Of Jewish maid or Alice Lee—  
Of knightly love and feudal glory,  
While the stately sun was going  
Like a hero to his bride,  
On my leafy study throwing  
His parting glance of pride.  
Then came to me the joys, the fears—  
The lofty hopes of poetry,  
And brightly shone my future years.  
I stood and gazed exultingly,  
And sometimes 'neath my lofty bower  
A beauteous girl would wander by—  
I knew not then that wealth was power,  
That love from poverty would fly:  
With ardent and devoted pride  
I read on her sky-watching eyes  
Genius might win a lovely bride,  
And vowed to gain the prize.

The revolt against "King Plutus" in an urchin of this age must have been instinctive, like the "pointing" of a pointer puppy. And equally noticeable is the kind of prophetic sympathy he shows with that passion of passions which was afterwards his blessing and his bane. But now came a great and important change in the family prospects. The father underwent a long illness, and comparative poverty threatened to succeed comparative affluence.

At first the children realized the terrors of the enemy approaching no more than a landsman in an unarmed ship realizes the terrors of the black speck far away on the horizon, which causes the captain in imagination to hear the yells and see the knives of the Lascar pirates just starting in pursuit. For at first disaster presented the aspect of a friend driving away the Moloch of religious bigotry. The tea-and-toast parsons fled. Bunyan and Zerubbabel Smith were shelved, and Ebenezer brought home Carlyle's 'French Revolution' and 'Sartor Resartus' and read them aloud. Blessed misfortune that gave them for Zerubbabel Smith Carlyle! Never was there such a fever of intellectual excitement in three such young minds. Here, if they wanted resignation to the inevitable more thorough than Sumner's own, they got it: here, if they wanted defiance towards that which can and may be fought—defiance as fiery as Ebenezer's—they

got it. Long passages were got up by heart among them and recited as some people will recite Shakespeare. Over the roof misfortune, like the "demon bird" of the dream, was hovering, waiting to tear them with beak and claw; but you would never have thought it if you had heard, now in this room and now in that, the perorations of the sage of Chelsea started by Mary in her girlish treble, taken up by Sumner in his gentle tones, and then by Ebenezer in a voice not gentle at all, but with defiance and daring in every note. Passing one of her brothers on the stairs Mary would greet him with "Two men I honour and no third,"—shaking her curls with joy and shedding light from her face as she flitted away, still keeping up her chant; and he (Ebenezer or Sumner) would take up the song, chanting in a swift rejoicing way, in token of the freedom that had come to them—in token of their new-found creed that God was a God of love—that man was not a creature to be hated utterly, and that to find the world a beautiful one was not a deadly sin. "Hardly entreated brother," Mary would cry out from the landing, "for us was thy back so bent! for us were thy straight limbs and fingers so deformed! Thou wert our conscript on whom the lot fell, and fighting our battles wert thou marred." She little thought, poor child, how applicable would soon be those words of Carlyle to the brothers, who were listening at the foot of the stair. Next week I should like to tell how "hardly entreated" they were when they came to stand up in the Battle of Life. But it is a sad story altogether.

THEODORE WATTS.

#### THE FOURTH ORIENTAL CONGRESS, FLORENCE, 1878. Florence, Sept. 16.

On the last day of the third Oriental Congress, which was held at St. Petersburg in September, 1876, it was settled that the next Congress should be held at Florence in 1878. Details were left to the Italian Committee, and accordingly notice was given in due time that M. Amari was elected President, and M. Angelo De Gubernatis Secretary. The time fixed was September 12th to 18th, and delegates were appointed to register members, and give information at the different towns of Europe. In the British Isles Mr. Thomas Cheney and Mr. Robert Cust, the Honorary Secretary and Librarian of the Royal Asiatic Society, were appointed to represent London; Profs. Sayce and Legge for Oxford; Prof. W. Wright for Cambridge; and Dr. John Muir for Edinburgh. A reduction of thirty per cent. upon Italian railway fares was allowed to all holders of Congress tickets, but the issue of these tickets was restricted to those who were *bona fide* interested in the subjects to be discussed. Ladies and *dilettanti* and chance travellers who had swollen the numbers of attendants at previous congresses to a ridiculous extent were sternly excluded. The drawback was the early date fixed for the meeting, when the heat of the Italian sun was still at its height. However, the limited time at the disposal of learned professors who had to come a great distance left no choice. Italy, on the other hand, presented great attractions. By the 11th of September a very large number of members had arrived, and the office of the Congress in the Palazzo Riccardi was thronged by holders of tickets, which had been distributed to applicants by the delegates appointed for each country at the price of ten shillings each. Magnificent rooms had been set apart for the Congress, and a capital museum of Oriental objects had been brought together. On the evening of the 11th the preliminary meeting of delegates was held to arrange details.

The following sections were formed, which could, if necessary, be held at the same time in separate rooms, or on different days, according to the pressure of business, or the convenience of parties who wished to attend two sections: 1. Egyptology; 2. Semitic (Assyriology); 3. Semitic (Arabic); 4. Indianist; 5. Indo-European and Iranian; 6. Altaic; 7. Chinese, Indo-Chinese, and Japanese.

Members were requested to associate themselves to one or more sections, and then to proceed to elect a president, vice-president, and secretary out of their number. A great number of written communications had already been forwarded to the office, which had to be distributed among these sections; all this was not accomplished in one sitting, the heat of which was excessive, though alleviated by ices and lemonade.

On Thursday the 11th the Congress was opened in due form in the Sala di Senato, in the Uffizi, by no less a personage than Amadeo, Duke of Aosta, ex-King of Spain, who was deputed to this office by his brother, King Humbert. The scene was a very fine one, as the hall is grand in size and decoration, and in addition to the members of the Congress there was a large attendance of spectators. The Minister of Public Instruction made an oration, which was followed by one from the President, Amari, and the Secretary, De Gubernatis, but not one word, good or bad, fell from the Duke's lips, which made his appearance at all somewhat ridiculous. The company proceeded to the Palazzo Riccardi, which was now thrown open to ticket-holders, and at 2 P.M. another tedious meeting was held to settle about presidents and vice-presidents of sections.

The Italian, like other Southern races, is sadly deficient in that administrative power which distinguishes the Northern races, a power which is quite compatible with civil liberty. The consequence was that the Congress, consisting of members strangers to each other and speaking different languages, in the absence of a controlling authority became a mob: however, gradually, light came out of darkness, and the sections were formed. The names of the great scholars in each section and the nature of the discussions will be given next week. On Thursday evening the Delegates of the Congress dined in the Palazzo Pitti with the Duke of Aosta, and after dinner they were severally presented to him.

The Congress is a great success, as upwards of 120 members have attended, and no part of Europe is unrepresented.

R. C.

#### Literary Gossip.

THE widow of the late Mr. Charles J. Mathews has put, it is said, into the hands of Mr. Charles Dickens abundant material for a life of the famous comedian. This material includes, for the early life, an autobiography, prepared for publication by Mr. Mathews, together with notes for the continuation of the same, letters, &c. Mr. Dickens intends further to supplement this matter by all the letters and information bearing on the subject that he can collect from other sources. He will feel much obliged to anybody who will forward to him at 26, Wellington Street, Strand, such papers as may assist him in making the work complete. The book will be published in the course of next year by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

MRS. LYNN LINTON will supply to the *Gentleman's Magazine* for January the opening chapters of a new novel, entitled 'Under which King?'

MR. ARCHIBALD FORBES will contribute an article to the October number of the *Nineteenth Century*, entitled 'The Fiasco of Cyprus.' The Rev. Mr. Mackonochie will publish the draft of a suggested Act of Parliament for the Disestablishment of the Church. Mr. Gladstone, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and Mr. Mallock will be also among the contributors.

MESSRS. BESANT AND RICE will shortly contribute a new story to the *Graphic*.

MR. JUSTIN MCCARTHY is not satisfied with the labour involved in writing a history of the



reign of Queen Victoria; he is engaged upon a new novel, the title of which is to be 'Donna Quixote.'

MR. HODGES will publish, on the 1st of October, at the price of one penny, 'England's Mission,' being a reprint of Mr. Gladstone's article from the September number of the *Nineteenth Century*.

MESSRS. RIVINGTON have nearly ready two volumes of 'Miscellanies, Literary and Religious,' by the Bishop of Lincoln; two volumes of 'Studies, Critical and Devotional, on the Collects of the Communion Office,' by the Dean of Norwich; a 'Selection, adapted to the Seasons of the Ecclesiastical Year, from the "Parochial and Plain Sermons" of S. John H. Newman'; 'The Theory of Development,' a criticism of Dr. Newman's essay on the development of Christian doctrine, by the late Canon Mozley, reprinted from the *Christian Remembrancer*, January, 1847; 'A Selection from Pascal's Thoughts,' translated by H. L. Sidney Lear; 'Day unto Day,' a book containing a text, short reading, and hymn for every day in the Church's year, selected by the same; 'The Devotional Birthday Book,' forming a new volume of Rivingtons' Devotional Series; 'The Microscope of the New Testament,' by the late Dr. Sewell, formerly Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Oxford, edited by the Rev. W. J. Crichton, M.A.; 'An Introduction to the Study of Painted Glass,' by A. A.; and a new translation of 'The Confessions of St. Augustine,' forming a volume of the "Library of Spiritual Works for English Catholics."

THE French Government will be represented at the approaching meeting of the Library Association at Oxford by the Baron de Watteville; and among other foreign visitors will be the Comte de Marsy, of the Bibliothèque de Compiègne, and Count Balzani, of the Biblioteca Vittorio Emanuele, Rome. An interesting programme will be arranged, and among the papers to be read may be mentioned 'Old Parochial Libraries of England and Wales,' by Mr. T. W. Shore; 'Special Collections of Books for Provincial Libraries,' by Mr. W. H. K. Wright; 'Cathedral Libraries, their Contents and Uses,' by Rev. H. E. Reynolds; 'On the Foundation of Bibliographical Professorships,' by Mr. W. E. A. Axon; 'On Indicators,' by Mr. J. Yates; 'The Union of Subscription Libraries with those established under the Public Libraries Acts,' by Mr. J. Potter Briscoe; 'On the Signification of Libraries, Past and Present,' by Dr. Seligmann; 'On Accessions Catalogues,' by Mr. F. T. Barrett, and a note by the same author 'On Subject-matter Entries in Dictionary Catalogues'; 'On Shelf Arrangement,' by Mr. E. A. Roy; 'On the Salaries of Librarians,' by Mr. R. Harrison; 'The Postal Union and International Copyright,' by Mr. H. Stevens; 'On some Practical Points in the Preparation of a General Catalogue of English Literature,' by Mr. C. Walford; 'On Printing the British Museum Catalogue,' by Mr. W. E. A. Axon; 'Notes and Hints about Libraries,' by Rev. Dr. C. Rogers; and 'Notes on Printers and Printing in the Provincial Towns of England and Wales,' by Mr. W. H. Allnutt.

BESIDES the papers read and the various discussions thereon, the business to be transacted will include a Report of the Council on

the work of the Association during the year; the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee will give an account of their labours; the Committee on Poole's Index will show what has been done to co-operate in a new edition of that work; and the Report of the Committee on a new General Catalogue of English Literature will be submitted for thorough criticism. The Report of the recent Royal Commission on Copyright will be discussed from the librarians' point of view. It is expected that other questions in connexion with library science will be raised in the course of the meeting.

MR. S. PHILLIPS DAY, author of 'Down South; or, Experiences at the Seat of War in America,' is writing a series of little books entitled "Food Papers." One of these, 'Household Economics,' will be issued immediately.

MR. CHARLES GIBBON has completed for *Belgravia* a new story, entitled 'Queen of the Meadow.'

MR. WILLIAM PATERSON, of Edinburgh, has in the press, and will shortly publish, 'A Practical Directory for the Improvement of Landed Property,' by Mr. Scott Burn, illustrated with sixty-five large plates; 'A Dictionary of the Anonymous and Pseudonymous Literature of Great Britain,' by the late Samuel Halkett, Keeper of the Advocates' Library, and the Rev. John Laing, Librarian of the New College, Edinburgh; a Fac-simile of the Ancient Heraldic Manuscript (1542), emblazoned by Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount, edited by Dr. David Laing; 'Don Quixote,' illustrated with thirty-seven original etchings by Adolph Lalauze, done expressly for this edition; Innes's 'Critical Survey on the Ancient Inhabitants of Scotland,' with a memoir by Dr. George Grub; The Scottish Almanac for 1879; and the fifth volume of the library edition of the works of Robert Burns, containing the prose.

A MONUMENT is to be erected in Dundee to the memory of the late Rev. George Gillfillan.

MESSRS. A. & C. BLACK announce 'Bible Echoes in Ancient Classics,' by Dr. Craufurd Tait Ramage, author of 'Beautiful Thoughts from Latin Authors,' 'Beautiful Thoughts from Greek Authors,' &c. The book contains a collection of parallel passages from sacred and profane authors.

UNDER the presidency of Mr. James Crossley a meeting of the Council of the Record Society has been held at the Chetham Library, Manchester, when it was resolved to proceed immediately with the first volume of the Society's publications, which will be the 'Church Surveys of Lancashire and Cheshire.' It will be edited by Col. Fishwick, F.S.A.

M. J. BAQUIER has lately published (Heilbronn, Henninger) 'Bibliographie de la Chanson de Roland,' comprising the manuscripts, various editions, and translations, dissertations, and notes relating to the subject, followed by an alphabetical index.

THE Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres has awarded the Prix Volney (for researches of comparative philology) to M. Joseph Halévy, for his essay on the Saffa inscription, which has been noticed in these columns.

MESSRS. G. BELL & SONS announce, besides 'A Handbook to the Coinage of Scotland,' from Alexander I. to Anne, with numerous figures, by Mr. J. D. Robertson, which will be published next week, new editions of Mr. Collier's 'History of English Dramatic Poetry,' which, as we have already mentioned, the veteran has revised, and of a 'Dictionary of Artists of the English School,' by Mr. Redgrave; 'Goethe's Faust,' the first part complete, with selections from the second part, the former revised and the latter newly translated for this edition, by Miss Swanwick, with forty steel engravings after Retzsch's designs; the fourth edition of Mr. Coventry Patmore's 'Victories of Love'; 'Through Rough Waters,' a story for young people, by the author of 'The Rose Garden,' 'Unawares,' &c., with eleven illustrations; and 'Aunt Judy's Christmas Volume for 1878,' edited by H. K. F. Gatty.

THE same publishers announce the following additions to Bohn's Standard Library: Miss Martineau's 'History of England, from 1800-15'; Lessing's Dramatic Works, Vol. II., containing all the complete comedies written by Lessing; and Lessing's Prose Works, a selection comprising the 'Laocoon' (Beesley's translation), 'Hamburg Dramatic Notes,' and 'How the Ancients Represented Death': the two last pieces have been translated by Miss Helen Zimmern.

MESSRS. CHURCH AND BRODRIBB, whose translation of Tacitus, now complete, has been generally approved, have undertaken to translate for Messrs. Macmillan & Co. the first five books of the third decade of Livy's Roman History.

THE death is announced of the Rev. W. Linwood. Mr. Linwood's undergraduate career was exceptionally brilliant. He carried off the Hertford, Ireland, and Craven Scholarships, and when he took his degree in 1839 great things were expected of him; but he hardly realized the hopes formed of him. He published an edition of Sophocles, a Lexicon to Æschylus, &c., but he can scarcely be said ever to have done justice to his powers, or produced any work worthy of his great attainments as a Greek scholar.

DR. NEUMANN, of the University of Heidelberg, is engaged on an Old French grammar, treated, of course, historically. He is also preparing illustrations of the words used in trade and business in the different dialects of Old French, attempting to do for France what Heinzel's 'Geschichte der niederfränkischen Geschäftssprache' does for the country it treats of.

MESSRS. E. MOXON & Co. intend to bring out M. Gustave Doré's illustrations to the 'Idylls of the King' in a single volume. They have obtained permission from Mr. Tennyson to print the passages from his poems that are illustrated in the plates.

MESSRS. WARD, LOCK & Co. promise a new edition, rewritten, of John Latouche's (Mr. Oswald Crawford) 'Travels in Portugal.'

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish immediately, under the title of 'Village Politics,' a small volume of sermons and addresses on the Labour Question, by the Rev. Charles W. Stubbs, M.A., Vicar of Granborough, Bucks.

BARON DAVID DE GENZBURG presented an essay on the poetical book 'Tharshish,' by

the famous Moses ben Ezra of Grenada (twelfth century), for his degree of Candidatus at the University of St. Petersburg. He is now preparing an edition of the book itself, according to MSS. in various libraries. The Günzburg family possess themselves one of the best collections of Hebrew MSS., about nine hundred in number. They are kept in Paris, and from them Dr. Neubauer drew a great number of documents for the 'Histoire des Rabbins Français du Treizième Siècle' (twenty-seventh volume of the 'Histoire Littéraire de la France') which he edited last year together with M. Renan.

THE eminent Danish Orientalist, Prof. Niels Ludvig Westergaard, died at Copenhagen on the 9th inst. He was born in 1815. From a very early age he gave himself to the study of Indian philology, and in 1841 started on a long journey through India, Persia, and Caucasia, returning in 1844. The year after he was made Professor of Oriental Philology and Literature at Copenhagen, a post which he held until his death. His contributions to literature have been very numerous and important.

A TELEGRAM in Thursday's *Times* announces the death of Prof. Seager, of the Catholic University at Kensington. He died, after a very short illness, at Florence, whither he had gone to take part in the proceedings of the Congress of Orientalists.

MR. EVELYN D. JERROLD is engaged upon the 'Life and Letters of Balzac,' a work which is now in a forward state.

DR. W. P. SHELASHNIKOV, at St. Petersburg, is preparing a book in Russian on the architecture of the first Temple in general and particularly on the two columns Sachin and Boaz, according to the latest discoveries in Palestine. It is to be hoped that he will not overlook Mr. Fergusson's excellent volume on the subject which we reviewed a fortnight ago.

MR. W. SWAN SONNENSCHN has in preparation the translation of the fourth edition of Jacob Grimm's 'Deutsche Mythologie' (1875-8), of which we made mention some time ago, and which it was suggested that Mr. Thoms's Society should undertake to bring out. The first volume will be published before the close of the present year, and its translation has been entrusted to Mr. James S. Stallybrass, who is best known as joint-author of Mr. A. Sonnenschein's 'German for the English.' He will illustrate and supplement the text by original notes, and the numerous quotations will in cases of difficulty be translated into English. The book will be dedicated, by permission, to Prof. Max Müller. Mr. Sonnenschein also announces the first volume of 'Alpine Plants painted from Nature,' by Joseph Seboth, containing one hundred highly-finished coloured plates, with text; a translation of Baroness Marenholtz-Bülow's 'Die kindlichen Triebe,' by Miss Bolton, of the Anerley Kindergarten; Morgenstern's 'Life of Fröbel'; and a 'Practical Guide to the Kindergarten.'

GERMAN works preparing for early publication include, 'The Life of Schiller's Wife,' by Dr. Karl Fulda; Von Hartmann's long expected 'Phenomena of Moral Consciousness,' in which some great social problems of the day are to be dealt with; a 'History of

Philosophical Terminology,' by Prof. Eucken, of Jena; and a miniature edition, illustrated by Erdmann Wagner, of Gutzkow's 'The King's Lieutenant.'

## SCIENCE

*Transactions of the Institution of Naval Architects.* Vol. XVIII. (London.)

THE eighteenth volume of the 'Transactions of the Institution of Naval Architects' contains, besides the list of officers and members, and a statement of the objects and of the regulations of the institution, reports of the proceedings in London during March, and in Glasgow during August, of the past year. Sixteen papers were discussed in March, and fourteen in August. The subjects of the papers are naturally for the most part of too technical a nature to interest any but the professional reader. But such is not the case in every instance. The primary importance of our naval defences is such as to tempt many persons to look at the results of inquiries into the details of which they would feel themselves unprepared to enter. Thus Mr. Barnaby's paper 'On the Fighting Power of the Merchant Ship in Naval Warfare' opens a question of no small interest. The conclusions of the writer, to which his position as Director of Naval Construction to the Royal Navy gives peculiar weight, are these. The merchant ship, which was at one time the equal of the ship of war, held a high place in naval warfare far into the present century. For reasons assigned by the writer, it gradually lost its place, and for war purposes fell into contempt among naval men. The extension of the space occupied by machinery in war ships, and the perfection of explosive missiles, have been gradually bringing the two kinds of ships together again, except where armour is employed. The appreciation of this fact on the part of naval constructors, as well as on that of the Government, may tend to arrangements that would secure to the State the services of all suitable vessels in the event of war, and would prevent them from passing into the hands of our enemies. "We have," Mr. Barnaby concludes, "a magnificent possession in our mercantile steam fleet. A large portion of it possesses high speed, coal endurance, sea-worthiness. It needs to be manned by trained British seamen and to be at the service of the State. It will not, I believe, be the fault of the naval administration if this is not accomplished."

In a paper on citadel ships Mr. E. J. Reed has argued that the circular or soup-plate form of the Russian ironclads may be taken advantageously as the point of departure in designing citadel ships to meet the circumstances and conditions of naval warfare. Mr. Reed's arguments, however, do not seem to have convinced many beside himself that these inventions are anything but clumsy blunders. Starting from the buoyancy of a sphere of 100 feet in diameter, Mr. Reed compares a hull in the form of a soup plate, of that diameter, with a vessel of equal displacement of a more ordinary form, 245 feet long and 40 feet in beam. Assuming a displacement of 4,250 tons, it will be possible to make the former hull of iron of 19 inches in thickness, while for the latter form the thickness must be reduced to 13½ inches. Thus there

is a saving of 1,200 tons out of a displacement of 4,250 tons, which would allow 600 tons of machinery and 600 tons of coal to be carried by the circular vessel in excess of the weight available for the other, supposing the thickness of both to be the same. There is, on these figures, a superiority of a little over 28 per cent. in buoyancy possessed by the circular vessel, of which advantage may be taken by way either of increasing the thickness of the armour or of providing additional machine power and store of coal. It is curious that none of the experts who took part in the discussion should have called attention to the fact that, according to the formulæ generally relied on for ascertaining the speed of vessels, the circular ironclad would meet two and a quarter times the resistance of the shipshape vessel. To maintain equal speed (to say nothing of the naval question of the handling of the ship), two and a quarter times the power must be expended on the circular ship, while at the same time its capacity for extra machinery and fuel is only 28 per cent. times more than that of the normal vessel. This simple rule of three sum looks very unfavourable to the Russian system. At the same time it may be admitted that if, as Mr. Reed anticipates, the improvement of torpedoes should lead to the plating of the keel, as well as of the sides and deck, of war vessels, a circular citadel, placed in the centre of an otherwise unarmoured vessel, will naturally suggest itself to the architect as the lightest form consistent with a given strength. But, bearing in mind the two cardinal facts, that the charge of the torpedo may be made, and has been made, so powerful that no thickness of armour would save a vessel under which it exploded in contact, and, secondly, that absolute contact is necessary to the full destructive effect, and that a distance of a very few feet gives immunity to the vessel attacked, it is impossible to admit that an armoured keel is likely to be a wise mode of defending a ship of war from submarine mines.

The paper which is of the highest importance of any contained in the volume before us, is one by Mr. W. Froude, F.R.S., 'On the Wave-Making Resistance of Ships.' This communication embodies the report drawn up by that gentleman for the Admiralty, on the series of experiments as to the resistance experienced by different forms of hulls. They have been made, it is true, on models of only one-twenty-fifth the size of the actual vessels; but Sir Spencer Robinson bears witness that the doubts which he originally entertained as to the value of the proposed investigation on that score were entirely removed by watching the experiments. The results of these trials, plotted by Mr. Froude in a most ingenious, though simple diagram, throw a flood of light on the extraordinary anomalies which have hitherto been found to accompany an increase of speed, when the rate of ten or eleven knots an hour is passed. Mr. Froude has shown that certain forms of wave are proper to certain velocities, and that the length of the body of a vessel will offer least resistance when it is duly proportioned to the form of wave which its speed will raise. Thus the length of a vessel will, as the results of these elegant researches, be hereafter expressed as a practice of the intended maximum speed. Empiricism will be banished from ship building, as far as this important item is concerned.

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And it will become possible to work out mathematically all the leading dimensions of a ship, with good foreknowledge of the behaviour of the vessel constructed on the new rules. The discovery is one of the utmost importance to naval architecture; and it is not too much to say that it is one which will secure for Mr. Froude a distinguished place among the advancers of science. Dr. Woolley, who presided over the meeting at which the paper was read, said that the gentleman from Cambridge who is the author of the received book upon hydrodynamics current at that University, expressed the opinion there held, that Mr. Froude's labours had "effected a complete revolution in the whole theory of resistances." The pre-eminence in scientific repute so long held by the French naval architects is now fully vindicated for those of Great Britain.

*Mulm in Parvo Gardening.* By Samuel Wood. (Crosby Lockwood & Co.)

THE author of this little book has previously published some useful practical works, the favourable reception accorded to which has probably induced him to lay before the public the present treatise, which we cannot but consider as likely to be misleading. The writer professes to tell his readers how to obtain 620*l.* per annum clear profit, from one acre of land, without glass, by the cultivation of fruits and vegetables; and how to grow flowers in three glass-houses so as to realize 176*l.* per annum clear profit. It does not appear that he has ever accomplished the feats above mentioned, and we think it extremely unlikely that he ever will. The item of rent and taxes is not accounted for, and, moreover, the crops upon which the author relies to produce the net profit aforesaid, include peaches, nectarines, and apricots, which are to yield, according to the author's estimate, half the six hundred pounds! We wonder how many shillings the author realized from his unprotected peach-walls in the spring of last year. We know of many gardens where not a single peach was to be found out of doors, and in some places things are not much better this year. The fallacies of a book like this, which may find its way into the hands of amateurs, clergymen, and small capitalists, can hardly be too strongly condemned, for if not detected, it is obvious they may occasion serious loss and bitter disappointment. As for the author's opinions, founded as they are "upon observation," we can only say that the value of the former is in direct proportion to the accuracy of the latter, and if any readers care to know what Mr. Wood's opinions are, we commend to them his account of green-fly and other insects, and his views as to the potato disease. It will be new to chemists also, we suspect, to learn that "nitrogen is said to comprise five different kinds of gas." It is disheartening to see the toil and labour of those who have been endeavouring to inculcate some notions of elementary principles thrown away upon such writers as Mr. Wood.

*Guide du Botaniste en Belgique.* Par François Crépín. (Brussels, Mayolez.)

THIS is a delightful little book, full of very varied information, suitable for all classes of botanical students, novices, *dilettanti*, and experts. In some senses it is local—Belgian—intensely patriotic, as Belgian literature generally is; in other senses it is cosmopolitan, indeed, its interest extends beyond this present globe, and reaches back to the time when the traces of Alge first imprinted themselves on the Cambrian strata of the Ardennes, and tree ferns waved over the coal-fields of Liège. The author tells us, in clear language, which wins and keeps our interest, how, when, and where to observe, collect, and preserve recent and fossil plants. He supplies the place of a knowing friend who knows in what pool to look for a particular alga, how to secure it, how to examine

it with microscope and test-tube, how to preserve it, and how best to place it amid its fellows. Should the botanist wish to transmit to others the results of his observations, this little book will tell him how to prepare floras, monographs, and afford directions how to correct his proofs. In fine the book is a good—more, an excellent—guide to the botanist in every stage of his career from tyro to professor. The strictly local part of the book is devoted to the indication of the most suitable localities for botanizing excursions and fossil hunting in Belgium. The patriotic part of the book, if we may so call it, is devoted to a very interesting sketch of the botanists of Belgium, from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries inclusive, and to an enumeration of the libraries, herbaria, museums, learned societies, and gardens open to the botanical student. Much of what is in this book is applicable to this or any other country, and nowhere that we know of are such concise directions for the study of fossil botany to be found. For these reasons we commend M. Crépín's unpretending but excellent volume to the notice of British botanists as supplying information not otherwise accessible to them.

*Ferns of the British Isles.* Described and Photographed by S<sup>r</sup> C. (Van Voorst.)

THERE are so many fern books, cheap or costly, popular or scientific, concise or diffuse, that it might be thought there was no room for more. Not so, however, thinks S<sup>r</sup> C. He or she certainly does not err on the side of diffuseness, and the descriptions given, so far as we have tested them, are accurate. The photographs are useful as portraits, but on too small a scale, so that the illustrations give the impression of having been taken, as some indeed have been, from very poor specimens. The book will be useful as a reminder to those whose memory fails them, or it may supply a hint to a beginner. The paper and typography leave nothing to be desired.

*Introduction to Botanic Teachings at (in) the Schools of Victoria.* By Baron Ferd. von Mueller. (Melbourne, Ferres.)

THIS is a small book drawn up on the same plan as Dr. Masters's 'Botany for Beginners.' "An experience of nearly forty years has convinced the author that the use of a grammar-like publication for initiating into a study of plants is alike wearisome to the teacher and children, and that, as a rule, subject to rare exception, the knowledge acquired from the first elementary works on botany is as quickly gained as lost." We quite agree with the author as to this point. As it seems to us, the first thing to do is to fix and intensify the interest a child naturally takes in the wild flowers around him. Proceed from the known to unknown gradually, instilling notions of grammar, so to speak, as the pupil's interest is aroused and his knowledge increases. Baron von Mueller discourses on the common flowers of Australia, the eucalyptus, the acacias, the loranthas, the she oaks, &c., and, by means of the lessons to be learnt from them, contrives, in the space of less than a hundred and fifty pages, to communicate a very considerable and, it is needless to say, for its scope, exact account of the main principles of botany.

#### THE PLANET VULCAN.

I ENCLOSE an extract from a letter, dated August the 30th, which I have received from Mr. Lewis Swift, of Rochester, N.Y.

It will be evident that if the observed planet retrograded five minutes of arc in five minutes of time that it must be much nearer to the Sun than the hypothetical planet of Le Verrier; but, considering the hurried nature of observations made during totality, I conclude that astronomers will not be inclined to place much weight on such a difference of position, unless both Prof. Watson and Mr. Lewis Swift made more definite observations of the new star's place with regard to  $\theta$  Cancri than we have as yet heard of.

A. C. RANYARD.

"It gives me great pleasure to inform you of

my discovery of the hypothetical Vulcan only some five minutes after its discovery by Prof. Watson, where totality commenced that number of minutes earlier than at Denver. I have not time now to enter into details, but will gladly do so if you desire it. That we both saw the elusive planet I am as certain of as I am that I saw the Sun eclipsed. My principal object in observing the eclipse was to make a vigorous effort to discover it if it had an existence. Before leaving home I arranged my programme as follows: to devote twenty seconds to general observation immediately after totality, and the same time to the same purpose immediately preceding the end of totality, and the remainder, some two minutes, to searching for Vulcan. In less than half a minute I ran upon two equally bright stars of the 5th magnitude, very red, and both with large discs, one of which I knew was  $\theta$  Cancri, and the other must be Vulcan. I had three views of them during the first minute of totality, a small cloud preventing a desired fourth view just before the end of totality.

"I have been in correspondence with Prof. Watson, and find that in declination we agree almost exactly, and in right ascension we are not far apart, only a little more than can be accounted for by supposing that it had just passed its inferior conjunction, and during the difference of time between our observations it had retrograded some five minutes in arc, which it probably would do. At the time it was thought by some (without sufficient reason, I think,) that because the disc was large and round, it was probably approaching superior conjunction, and, of course, a gibbous phase, but let it be remembered the star had also a disc.

"Both were undoubtedly spurious, and the colours abnormal, as the star was equally red. In this case its direct motion would tend to aggravate the difference between its position as seen by us; I am, therefore, inclined to think that it had just passed its inferior conjunction.

"My telescope was of four and a half inches aperture, with a comet eye-piece, bearing a power of twenty-five, and having a field of  $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ .

"My Report on the eclipse is now nearly ready, and I think I shall send it to the Naval Observatory at Washington, or perhaps to you."

#### GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THE African Expedition under Mr. Keith Johnston, organized by the African Committee of the Royal Geographical Society, is now completing its preparations, and will leave England early in November. Some weeks will be spent in scientific investigation in the coast regions near Zanzibar before the party finally marches for the interior, the route to be then taken being from Dar-es-Salaam to the north end of Lake Nyassa, and thence to Tanganyika. A geologist has been appointed as assistant and second in command to Mr. Johnston.

Mr. Edward Stanford is preparing for publication the following books of travel: 'Notes of Tour in America, from August 7th to November 17th, 1877,' by Mr. H. Hussey Vivian, M.P., and 'Karamania; or, Life in Asiatic Turkey: a Journal of Travel in Cilicia (Padias and Trachea), Isauria, and Parts of Lycania and Cappadocia,' by the Rev. E. J. Davis, M.A., English Episcopal Chaplain, Alexandria. He has also in the press 'Manual of Physical, Historical, and Political Geography for Schools,' by Mr. Keith Johnston. Of his 'Compendium of Geography and Travel, the volume for Europe, edited by Prof. A. C. Ramsay, and that for Australasia, edited by Mr. A. R. Wallace, are nearly ready.

Students of the Eastern Question will be interested in an able paper 'On the Principal Tribes of the Russians,' to be published in the forthcoming number of Petermann's *Mittheilungen*, in which the claims of the Muscovites or Great Russians to be pure Slavs are carefully considered. The author arrives at the conclusion that they are a mixed race, differing more essentially from the almost purely Slav Little and White Russians

than do the Provençals from the Northern French or the Southern from the Northern Germans. There are in European Russia 34,389,871 Muscovites or Great Russians, 14,193,665 Khokhols or Little Russians, and 3,592,057 White Russians. The paper is accompanied by an elaborate ethnographical map of European Russia. The same number contains an account of Lieut. Weyprecht's deep-sea temperature observations made in 1871-74 in the sea between Spitzbergen and Novaya Zemlya, and a report on Dr. Junker's explorations on the Upper Nile.

Herr G. Rohlf's will start next month for Africa, but his expedition will not be organized on as large a scale as originally proposed by him. A zoologist, Dr. Stecker, will accompany him, and although the rapidity with which an explorer is obliged to travel does not admit of making large collections, much may nevertheless be done. At the very start of the expedition an opportunity will be afforded to examine somewhat closely into the Fauna of Tripolis, which differs widely from the Faunas of Tunis and Egypt. Tripolis has never been explored by a scientific zoologist, and the smaller members of its Fauna are not to be found in any of our zoological collections. We do not even know for certain whether the spotted hyena is found there. Herr Rohlf's will proceed to Kufrah, either by way of Sella or of Aujila, and thence to Wadai, where he expects to meet with as friendly a reception as that accorded to Dr. Nachtigal. He will then endeavour to trace the rivers Shari and Benue to their sources, and to explore the region intervening between them and the rivers Ogowe and Congo.

M. Paul Soleillet, the French explorer, left Bakel, on the Senegal, on the 8th of June, and arrived at Kuniakaro on the 23rd of that month. Heavy rains much interfered with his progress, but his health did not suffer, and when last heard of he was on the point of starting for Sego, on the Niger. He proposes to winter in that town, and to descend the river as far as Timbuktu in the ensuing spring.

On the 1st of October Herr Mutze, of Leipzig, will commence the publication of a new geographical periodical, to appear monthly under the title of *Aus fernen Zonen*. Especial attention will be paid to the less known portions of the globe, the communications of members of the various religious missions sent abroad by Christian countries being largely relied upon to furnish information as to the manners and customs of the nations they visit. G. Kurze, a clergyman of Saxe-Altenburg, is to be editor.

Mr. E. Delmar Morgan, F.R.G.S., has written to us, remarking that we are premature in stating that Colonel Prejevalsky "did not explore Lob-Nor at all," in his last remarkable journey in Central Asia. Our words in our note of last Saturday were, "It would appear that Prejevalsky . . . did not explore Lob-Nor," &c. We quite admit that the important historical and geographical questions connected with this journey are by no means set at rest by Baron von Richtshofen's criticisms, able and erudite though they be, and we learn with interest that Prejevalsky's answer is already in the printer's hands and will be published towards the end of next month. The geography of the Tarim river and Lob-Nor has an important bearing on the history of the communications between Eastern and Western Asia.

Signor G. B. Messedaglia has prepared a map of 'Egypt and its Dependencies,' on a scale of 1 : 3,000,000, specially designed to exhibit the explorations made by officers of the Egyptian General Staff. It embodies Col. Mason's surveys of the Nile and the Albert Nyanza, Purdy Pasha's explorations in Dar Fur, Col. Prout's survey of Kordofan, Lockett and Mitchell's reconnaissances in Abyssinia, Mokhtar Effendi's exploration of Harar, and other materials collected by General Gordon himself.

The last number of Capt. Camperio's *Esploratore*, a geographical review published at Milan, contains an interesting article on 'Sport in Central Asia,' by M. Ujfalvy, reviews of Stanley's and Sir George

Nares's recent works of travel, and a variety of miscellaneous articles. Signor Vescovo Comboni had asserted in a previous number that the Egyptian authorities had at all times facilitated the proceedings of scientific travellers in the Sudan. Dr. Schweinfurth, in a letter addressed to the editor, maintains, on the contrary, that until quite recently, at all events, scientific travellers not in the service of the Egyptian Government found themselves hampered by obstacles placed in their way by the officials in the Sudan. He gives due credit to General Gordon for the efforts made for the regeneration of the Sudan, but maintains that the slave trade is by no means extinct. In confirmation of this latter assertion, Signor Gessi writes on June 20th, 1878, from Khartum, that four slave caravans have been stopped recently, and the slaves liberated. A Roman Catholic mission is about to be established on the Albert Nyanza.

#### EXCAVATIONS AT ST. JUST.

Laregan, Penzance, September, 1878.

My attention was called a few weeks since to the presence of several apparently unexplored tumuli on the summits of the cliffs and promontories in the parish of St. Just-in-Penwith, and the present unfortunate depression in tin mining having thrown many able-bodied men out of employ, the occasion seemed a fitting one for investigating their contents. The rocky headland of Karn Gluze, overlooking as it does Cape Cornwall on the one side, and the bay stretching round to the Land's End on the other, is one of the grandest spots on the whole north coast of Cornwall. The promontory itself had been formerly entrenched against the land side by one of those cliff castles so common along this line of coast, and of which three others are visible from it. A portion of the mounds and trenches are still to be seen on the south side, though the remainder has been destroyed by the piles of debris thrown out by the St. Just Amalgamated Mines. To this latter cause, however, is owing the preservation of the immense stone tumulus or cairn I am about to describe, since antiquaries and treasure-seekers have alike passed it by, half buried as it has been in the burrows of mine stuff. It was the presence of surface stone in one particular spot on the very top of the promontory which led me to drive a trench into the heart of the pile, with the following result. At a distance of about ten feet from the extreme edge of the mound on the east side a wall was brought to light, built of massive granite stone, set on edge, and fitted together without mortar. This is at present about four feet high. Within this, at a distance of 18 ft., as the workmen approached the centre, a second wall was opened up, resting—like the former one—on the natural soil, and surrounded at its base by ashes and charred wood. This second wall proved to be 11 ft. in height, and to be neatly built in the form of a beehive, with layers of square or flat stone. The top of the cone was truncated; but if it was ever perfect, as from the accumulation of debris it once in all probability was, it must have been at least 20 ft. high in the centre. At the highest part of the wall still remaining the facing stones receded 5 ft. 4 in. from the base. On breaking through this second wall, at a distance of 5 ft. 6 in., a third wall appeared also built in the form of a beehive, and constructed in the neatest possible manner, of dry masonry. The spaces between the concentric circles were filled with loose stones occasionally intermixed with black earth and ashes. The central circle proved to be 30 ft. in diameter at the top, giving to the whole tumulus, not including the loose stones outside the outer wall, a total diameter, supposing it to be perfect, of somewhere about 88 ft. and a circumference of 262 ft. As we cut into the inner ring ashes became more plentiful, and in the middle, on clearing up the surface of the natural soil, an earth-cut grave was discovered, 8 ft. in length by 3 ft. wide. It lay in a direction bearing N.E. by S.W., and at the N.E. end was between 3 and 4 ft. deep. Its floor, however, was found to

be descending by two steps, each 1 ft. 6 in. high, into a second transverse grave, which crossed its south-western end in the shape of the top of the letter T. This, which probably was the actual place of interment, had been excavated under the natural soil. It was, in fact, a cave 8 ft. long by 2 ft. wide, and its floor 6 ft. under the surface. I was at first inclined to think that miners had preceded me in my excavations, and that this was a pit for tin, but the miners who were at work for me gave several reasons why it could not have been such, and the discovery in it of black greasy earth, ashes, and a stone bead, confirmed the view that it was a similar work to those graves which I had previously found in connexion with the rude stone monuments of the district. The bead differs from the so-called spindle whorls in being thicker than they. It is formed of a dark granitic stone, containing much mica. In clearing the ground at the N.E. end of the pit a flat stone was discovered, which proved to be one of the two covering stones of a neatly formed stone cist, 2 ft. 3 in. long, 1 ft. wide, and 2 ft. deep. At the north corner of this little vault, close against the wall, stood a small cylindrical urn, perfectly plain, without knob or handle. Two small pieces of burnt human bone lay on the top, but otherwise it was filled with dark earth and charred wood. It is 5½ in. high, and its diameter 4½ in. In the same cist were three other fragments of another small urn, which had two knobs or cleats on its side, and also a small piece of metal which, though very much decayed, has the appearance of having been a little copper coin. About two feet from this cist, on the west side of the grave, was a second, similarly constructed, 2 ft. long, 1 ft. wide, and 1 ft. deep. Against the southern side of this another little urn lay on its side, evidently purposely placed in that position. It is 4½ in. high, and 4 in. wide at the mouth. It is extremely rude in its baking and construction, is of thicker pottery than the other, and has a bulge under the rough rim at the top. With the exception of this the cist was empty. Close by was a third cist with nothing in it, and two others occurred further to the south. Near these latter cists was found the jaw-bone of some animal, which I believe to be that of a wolf. Although ranged round two sides of the grave, the cists could not be said to be placed in a circle, and no others occurred on the further side, though careful search was made. Excavations, however, are still in progress, and the tumulus is of such immense dimensions that further discoveries may be made. As one piece of the upper part fell away, a sixth little cist was found, containing fragments of pottery of the domestic type, similar to that which occurs in the hut villages of the district, and generally ascribed to the Romano-British period. This probably marked the place of a secondary interment. In the magnificence of its situation, as well as in its peculiar construction, reminding us of Buddhist topes or Sardinian nuraghs, this cairn is undoubtedly one of the most interesting remains discovered in Cornwall for many years. In its immense size alone, composed as it is of thousands of loads of surface stones, some of great size and weight, it is calculated to impress the visitor with the thought of the amount of labour which must have been brought to bear upon it. In the absence at present of more human bones in the excavations, as well as in the peculiar position of the little urns, as also in other respects, it is worth the careful consideration of archaeologists in general.

A second depressed cairn which I opened at the same time, some few hundred yards distant, contained evidence of a similar construction on a smaller scale, in the shape of a surrounding wall and central vaults. With the exception of one small piece of pottery, and numerous flints, mullars, and whetstones (which were common to both cairns), it contained nothing of importance. In the corner of a field adjoining the cliff the tenant farmer, some years since, discovered a trench about twenty yards in length, and in some places

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not more than a foot wide, filled with decayed limpet shells. It was uniformly four feet deep, and no less than twenty cartloads are said to have been removed from it as dressing for the land. Near it the soil was unusually deep, and amongst this when turned over stone handmills were found, with large pebbles from the beach for mullars, which often fitted exactly into the holes in the stones. A small cist was also found, which, however, proved to be empty.

On another neighbouring promontory, near the cliff-castle of Kenidjack, an important discovery of celts has also recently been made. They are of bronze, and the two finest are of the same type as those figured by Dr. Borlase in the 'Antiquities of Cornwall,' found at Karn Bres, near Redruth. They are "socketed," and the largest is 5½ inches in length. A second one of similar type is a little smaller. A third, which is broken, is of a different shape from the others, that known as the "Paalstab." Each of the three is provided with a single handle, and the two former are ornamented with three lines drawn down the sides. With them was another bronze object, which might either have been a fibula or the knob of a sword-hilt, and also a quantity of smelted copper, one piece of which shows the form of the stone bowl in which the metal was run. They were found in a pile of stones, which might either have been a sepulchral cairn or (what seems to me more probable from the description of the man who destroyed the place) the ruins of the building in which the smelting took place. Though a careful search was made no stone moulds could be found.

Thinking these discoveries are worth recording, I beg to place this brief account of them in your hands for publication should you find sufficient space for them in the pages of the *Athenæum*.

WILLIAM C. BORLASE.

P.S. Since writing the above, subsequent researches on the same cliffs have brought to light no less than seventeen more urns or the portions of them, besides the beads of a necklace, flints, and other objects.

#### MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Fri. Quætt Microscopical, 8.-History and Structure of Corals, Dr. J. Matthews.

#### Science Gossip.

MISS BUCKLEY has in the press an illustrated volume called 'The Fairyland of Science: Chapters for Children,' which Mr. Stanford will publish.

PROF. PETERS, of Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y., discovered another small planet on the night of last Tuesday, the 17th inst., which will reckon as No. 189 in that large family.

We have seen several statements reflecting on the Geological Survey and the Department of Science and Art for the ridiculously high prices at which some of the recently-published geological memoirs have been issued. We learn that these restrictive prices are due entirely to the Stationery Office, acting, we are told, upon their interpretation of a general Treasury Minute.

An exhibition of sanitary appliances and selected articles of domestic use and scientific applications thereto will be held at Stafford from the 2nd to the 19th of October.

A TRADES exhibition will be held next year in Berlin, the building for which has been definitely designed. It is to cover 20,000 square metres. It is also decided that an International Art Exhibition shall be held in Munich next year. The King of Bavaria has accepted the post of patron, and it is intended that a similar exhibition shall be held every four years.

PROF. FISCHER has been found poisoned in the physical laboratory of the Gymnasium at Prague. Dr. Fischer had been engaged on some experiments with the cyanide of potassium, and it is evident that he fell a victim to this investigation.

It is with great regret that we have, again this week, to record the death of one whose name is

well known in astronomy, that of M. Ernest Quetelet, long connected with the Royal Observatory at Brussels, which was built fifty years ago, and of which his distinguished father, the late Prof. A. Quetelet, was the first, and for more than forty years, Director. M. Ernest Quetelet died on the 6th inst., after completing the fifty-third year of his age only about a month previously.

THE 'Quarterly Report of the Mining Surveyors and Registrars of Victoria' has reached us. The estimated yield of gold and quantity of gold exported during the quarter ending March 31, 1878, was alluvial gold, 63,555 oz. 14 dwt. and quartz gold, 104,872 oz. 1 dwt.

THE 'Records of the Geological Survey of India,' Part III., for 1878, is before us. Mr. W. King has an interesting 'Note on the Progress of the Gold Industry in Wynad, Nilgiri district, Madras Presidency.' Something like 250 ounces of gold have been obtained, by crushing auriferous quartz, in from six to eight months.

At the Séance of the Académie des Sciences on the 26th of August the President placed on the table a work which excited the sympathies of the Academy, the 'Recueil des Travaux Scientifiques' of Léon Foucault, collected and published by the care of his mother, aided by his friends.

M. L. SIMONIN directs the attention of the Académie des Sciences to the dangers of allowing coal dust to be diffused in the air of collieries. He shows that a small amount of heat liberates explosive gas from the finely divided coal, and thus induces dangerous explosions. M. Simonin fully confirms the statements of Mr. Galloway.

GUSTAV WALLIS, the botanist, died at Cuenca in Ecuador on the 20th of June. His exertions in South America, in which he was aided by the Dutch cultivators, have helped the introduction of several hundred new varieties of South American ornamental plants.

M. BISCHOFFSHEIM, says the *Débats*, has given to the Meteorological Commission of Vaulseuse 10,000 francs in aid of the erection of the observatory it is proposed to construct on Mont Ventoux.

#### FINE ARTS

DORR'S GREAT WORKS, 'THE BRAZEN SERPENT,' 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed), each 35 by 22 feet, with 'Dream of Filate's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Calphurn,' &c., at the DORR GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

*The Abbey Church of Saint Alban, Hertfordshire.* Illustrated by James Neale, Architect. (Neale.)

MR. NEALE has issued for subscribers, not published in the ordinary sense of the term, the most valuable book that has yet appeared, or is ever likely to appear, on this quasi cathedral, which has been the subject of an animated controversy between "restorers" and "anti-restorers,"—between those who, like the Society of Antiquaries and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, would fain do no more to historic treasures, of which this church is one of the most eminent, than prop or reinstate a failing wall, repair a leaky roof, or underpin a weak foundation, and the architects and amateurs who regard such edifices as fit subjects for architectural experiments, and think nothing of rearing an enormous roof, raising a tower which does not suit their views, and perpetrating a sort of re-dedication of the front of St. Albans in memory of the architect whose efforts and experience were unsparingly employed in banishing everything that was venerable from the work, in depriving every part of all signs of service,

and obliterating the very history and life of the building.

In a terse preface Mr. Neale says that St. Alban's "is, architecturally and historically, one of the most interesting buildings in the United Kingdom." This appears to have been written more than seven years ago, and at that time the remark was true, but it is true no longer: the history of the abbey-church is now confounded, there is an inevitable second thought in regard to every architectural feature. Of St. Alban's, as produced by a succession of architects, each labouring after his own fashion, this book is a complete and most thoroughly trustworthy record. The drawings to scale are admirably executed, and they depict the church as a whole, and several parts, constructive and decorative, in a manner which is creditable in the highest degree to Mr. Neale, and hardly less creditable to Mr. Street, his master; only after a severe and learned training could so solid and sound a book as this have been produced.

We do not find in any part of the text prefixed to the plates a word of approval of the "restoration" of the church, unless the dedication to the chairman of the restoration committee is to be so construed. The book comprises, besides a succinct architectural history of the building, memoranda of discoveries made during recent operations, and illustrating the history of the structure as such; for examples of these curious recovered data see the notes on the foundations of the choir-stalls, on p. 14, which show that formerly the choir extended under the tower, as in other instances—Tintern and Fountains are, if we recollect rightly, in point to this effect. It was found, as we learn here, that Abbot Whethamstead's tomb had been forced through the arch of the vaulting previous to the like operation of 1874, and Mr. Neale supposes the first breaking-in happened soon after the dissolution of the monasteries, "when so many of the abbots' coffins were ravaged for the sake of the valuables which were usually buried with them." There appears to have been no reason for the second entrance into the house of the dead. Another note is curious.

A nearly circular hole was found in the south transept floor; it was paved with tiles and lined with flints: "It has been suggested that the heart of some benefactor to the altars (altar) opposite was buried here; a suggestion which is strengthened by the discovery of a similar cavity in the south side of the ante-chapel." Undoubtedly, it was customary to inter relics of benefactors in this manner, but, apart from that, the second discovery does not confirm the suggestion offered to account for the first, although there is documentary evidence that the heart of Roger de Norton (abbot, 1260-90) was buried in the ante-chapel. The discoveries made during recent operations at St. Alban's are exceptionally interesting, important, and numerous. Such works invariably reveal details long ago forgotten, or confused in history, and they are excusable, if we have a right to treat an ancient building as a *corpus vile* for architectural experiments and historical researches. Nowhere have such investigations been more fruitful, and Mr. Neale's pages are loaded with notes that indicate works begun, but not finished, centuries since, and changes of intention on the part of the builders and modifiers of the church are more than once betrayed

by partial alterations which either came to light anew the other day, or, having been imperfectly recognized before, are completely illustrated now. The level, for instance, of the old floor in the cloister was shown by tiles found *in situ* when the cloister was cleared out in 1874. Mr. Neale contributes an interesting addition to the data of a question on which there has been controversy, *i.e.*, as to the use of chestnut timber in ancient roofs, for he says the choir-ceiling boarding is of chestnut, but the roof timbers there "are of oak or chestnut. Some are clearly of oak, but I am inclined to think the greater part is chestnut." The question is important as illustrating the durability of roofs in either timber.

Having selected a few examples of our architect's notes and antiquarian data to show the nature of a portion of his book, we turn to the drawings, the more technical part, to which all the rest is subordinate. In general terms we have already commended these admirable examples of draughtsmanship, but to say no more in praise of them would be doing scant justice to the author, who has worked so skilfully, exhaustively, and faithfully. They are models of technical work of the highest character, and, as such, they are comparable with those masterpieces of architectural drawing which we are accustomed to see in the *Salon*, chosen from many more to represent the results of the labours of a large staff of Government teachers, the cream of the work of a selected class of skilled students, who are largely encouraged with national money and distinctions. We have never seen a finer instance than the south elevation of the entire abbey—a beautiful drawing which gives at one view typical parts of the structure, its Norman, Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular portions, and shows, traced on the southern face of the tower, the steep ridge-like lines of the ancient roof.

This drawing plainly shows the danger to the effect and dignity of the whole work involved in the ill-considered scheme for reconstructing the high-pitched roof. If it be carried out, the apex of the proposed nave and transept roofs will be considerably above the level of the choir-roof, as it now appears, and rise to about the middle of the round-headed windows of the lower stage of lights in the tower below the "ringing chamber." In perspective, one or other of the windows on each face of the west, south, and north sides of the tower will be hidden from view. Another result of raising the roofs will be to dwarf the entire building, unless a compensating elevation be given by raising the tower itself a stage, which was possibly the intention of the original designers. To add this stage would be a bold experiment, but unless this is done it needs no wizard to assure us that the hopes of those who desire to elevate the roofs will be completely disappointed. By the elevation of roofs the tower will at all events be hidden to a great extent, and very little will be gained in effecting the desired apparent reduction of the disproportionate length of the structure. The ante-chapel and Lady Chapel will, unless their roofs are likewise raised, be dwarfed out of proportion.

The drawing of the east elevation (transepts and tower), Plate v., shows the high pitch of the roofs over the destroyed apsidal chapels, traces of which occur within and without. A

beautiful and elaborate drawing, Plate vii., gives us the central western porch, its elegant mouldings and exquisite proportions. On the same plate are some sketches of carving, the excellent draughtsmanship of which is worthy of admiration, not only on account of the firmness and clearness of the execution, but of the large and free style it exhibits, and the remarkable value of the foreshortening of certain details. Indeed, this book is noteworthy in regard to the treatment of details by the artist. They are so faithfully rendered that it is exceptionally easy to recognize the characteristics of stone carving in such instances as the above-mentioned, and the "real size" outlines on Plate xi., crockets and corbels, taken from the north-western porch; the elevation of a capital on Plate xv.; the Norman cap of strap and stud work in bold scrolls of the blind arcade on the south of the slype, Plate xxx. These and other instances may be compared for their fidelity with those drawings which, with equal merit, reproduce the wooden bosses of the sanctuary roof, Plate xxxvii. and Plate xli., the details in wood of the watching loft, which are first-rate, Plate xlviii., and, above all, Plate xlix., which gives to perfection on a large scale the one remaining crocket of a certain design, and its fractured accompaniments of the same loft, north side. Other crockets of varying design are rendered with equal success on Plate l.

The book is rich in sections of mouldings, elements of the greatest value for technical study, which have been reproduced with conscientious care and a fine sense of the grace and beauty of their contours. The volume is also full of instances of fine and pure style in elevations. There is, on Plate xxxviii., a sketch of a groined corbel in the north-east angle of the Saint's Chapel, a most difficult piece of free-hand perspective representation, which it would be hard to surpass, so complete is its charm for artistic eyes. The clearstory window on the south of the sanctuary, comprised in Plate xli., a study of lovely geometrical design, is a valuable specimen of Mr. Neale's skill, but it is only one amongst a hundred.

#### MYCENE.

SINCE writing my last letter on the objects found at Mycenæ I have been gathering fresh proofs of their northern origin.

Firstly, in regard to the northern characteristics so distinctly visible in the patterns of the ornamentation of the gold objects. In looking over the volumes of the International Congress at Stockholm, I found (Vol. i. p. 498) the identical ornamental device, a cross with curved arms, on a bowl, of the latter part of the age of bronze, from Sweden, which is a prevailing pattern on several of the gold objects from Mycenæ, see woodcuts, Nos. 383, 385, 422, 507, 512. The triquetra, which figures on Nos. 382, 409, 413, 428, 501, 511, is a peculiar Celtic device, examples of which occur on the Tara brooch, and the tadpole fibula in the Royal Irish Academy, and in the Book of Kells. It may be said these types of ornaments show only a similarity, but not an identity. The triquetra, which appears so often in Celtic ornamentation, is in no two instances exactly alike, an infinite variety of design prevails as in the objects from Mycenæ.

Mr. Hildebrand, in his paper on the age of bronze in Hungary (International Congress, Stockholm), observes that the ornamentation of the Hungarian bronze belonged to a Dacian people,

and then adds that "it is curious to see the Dacians employed the spiral, while the Hellenes preferred the meander." On the gold objects found at Mycenæ the spiral is the prevailing pattern, while the meander appears nowhere. All tends to show that the style of the ornamentation, particularly the spiral, is northern, not Greek.

I have also found convincing proofs of the custom of placing a layer of pebbles under the bodies, and also of the mode of placing the bodies turned to the east being of northern origin. Mr. Millecamps, in his paper on a cemetery at Caranda (Aisne), France, remarks two funeral rites, which had been maintained there through a long succession of ages: the orientation of the bodies, and the offering of votive flints. In all the tombs of different periods the presence of pieces of rough flint in each tomb was observed, and they are by him considered to be of a votive character. In all instances they were, he says, strewn in the tombs. The Rev. Canon Greenwell informs me of two instances of burial on a pebble layer, one in Argyleshire, and another in the North Riding of Yorkshire. Dr. Schliemann particularly mentions the bodies had their heads turned to the east, and that a layer of small stones was discovered on which the bodies were lying.

The presence of beads of amber and crystal would also lead us to infer a northern origin. A quantity of beads of glass, rock-crystal, and amber, were discovered in a tomb at Björkö, near Stockholm. In one place 141 beads of crystal were found. From the Byzantine coins found in connexion with these ornaments, they appear to be of late date. Beads of amber have been discovered in several tombs in the island of Björkö. According to Mr. Evans, beads of amber are frequently found in cemeteries in England. We, however, never hear of amber beads being found in Greek tombs of any period.

What I base my strongest assumption in favour of the northern origin of the objects in the Mycenæ tombs is on the enormous length of the swords found there. Mr. Kemble has shown ('*Horned Ferales*') that these very long swords were peculiar to a northern people, were solely worn by persons of very high rank, and only carried by cavalry. Further there is nothing to prove that swords of such "enormous length" were used in prehistoric or Homeric times in Greece, or, indeed, at any other period in that country.

HODDER M. WESTROFF.

Stockholm, Sept. 1878.

MR. WESTROFF thinks that the precious remains found by Dr. Schliemann in the tombs of Mycenæ may be of a Scandinavian or Gothic origin. His idea seems at the first moment startling, but, as he shows, Gothic fleets visited the shores of the Ægean Sea in 263 A.D., and a Gothic army devastated in 395 A.D. the Peloponnesus. In that way there is an historic possibility that his explanation is correct, but I fear that its probability cannot be proved.

The Gothic tribes which ravaged Greece did not come directly from Scandinavia. They had lived some time in the southern parts of Europe, within, or close to, the boundaries of the Roman Empire, and it is highly probable that they had leisure enough to accept, certainly not the southern civilization, but at least some of its results. Men living by warfare must have been eager to adopt the better materials used by their foes. I shall not now attempt an investigation of the progress they had made in the south; let us suppose that the Goths of Southern Russia and the Danube retained the same degree of civilization as they had in Scandinavia before they left it—if they really did come from Scandinavia proper; let us only keep in mind that their original northern civilization cannot have been higher than the culture they got or had in the south, where they were exposed to the influence of the classical civilization in its later development.

But—and here, I think, lies the fault of the theory of Mr. Westroff—the features of the Scandinavian civilization of the first centuries of

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our era were not the same as those which the energetic researches of Dr. Schliemann have revealed. It is quite true, that in the north of Europe the use of bronze weapons continued to a late period—late in comparison to the early vanishing of the bronze age in western and southern Europe; but it can be proved, by a good many facts and corroborating circumstances, that the use of iron was known in Scandinavia probably at the time of the birth of Christ, but certainly in the second century; and there is no evidence that bronze swords were used at that time either in Northern Germany or in Denmark and Sweden. The bronze swords found at Mycenæ, if they belonged to the Goths, cannot have been their original weapons to which they were accustomed in their northern country. The long swords of which Prof. Stephens speaks in the Old Northern Runic monuments are iron swords.

The style of ornamentation used in Scandinavia in the first centuries of our era is not the same as that which we observe on the precious objects of the tombs of Mycenæ; a northern archaeologist would never be tempted to look for any analogy between the two classes of objects. The ornamental patterns observed on the antiquities of the early iron age of Scandinavia are, on the contrary, closely connected, partly identical with those from the cemeteries of the old Franks, Alemanni, and Anglo-Saxons.

Sculptured stones belonging to the same period of northern civilization are not known, at least no stones showing reliefs of any kind. The runes and the figures which sometimes accompany the Runic inscriptions are never elevated; the letters and the outlines of the figures are incised or rubbed in the surface of the slabs. In the last centuries of their Paganism the Scandinavians were not, in this respect, more advanced; the many hundreds of Swedish Runic stones from our earliest Christian times do not show any figures in relief, only the incised outlines. In that way the sculptured slabs of Mycenæ do not correspond with the Scandinavian antiquities. Nor is the analogy advocated by Mr. Westropp enhanced by the iron key found by Dr. Schliemann; it seems not to belong to the contents of the tombs, and it is not exactly of the same system as the keys of Björkö, which belong, it is to be remembered, not to the epoch of the Gothic invasions in Greece, but to the period of Charlemagne.

In Scandinavia the iron age was preceded by a bronze age, richly and characteristically developed. The relations between the two ages in the north are not as yet established in a satisfactory manner. There are some single types common to the two periods, but it is not to be denied that all the principal types of the bronze age have disappeared even in the earliest remains of the iron age, the principal types of which, on the other hand, cannot be traced back to types of the previous age. What, then, was the origin of the iron age of Scandinavia? What was its relation to the previous epoch, and that of the iron-using Goths of northern Europe to the people of the bronze age? We cannot as yet, with any degree of certainty, answer these questions; we cannot prove that the men of the bronze age were the direct ancestors of the Goths, nor, if such was not the case, indicate the name belonging to the people of the Scandinavian bronze age. Even if Mr. Westropp is able to show that there are some analogies between the antiquities of the northern bronze age and those of Mycenæ, he has not proved that Dr. Schliemann has found the remains of some Gothic princes.

It is really with the northern bronze age that Mr. Westropp has endeavoured to connect the finds of Mycenæ, and, it must be conceded, there is so much of analogy that an intelligent observer must ask himself, What is the relation between the two classes of objects? The archaeologists of the north have put this question to themselves, but, as far as I know, they have unanimously answered, The civilization of our bronze age and that of the tombs of Mycenæ are not identical, not at all.

At first, when the antiquities of a bronze age

were found almost everywhere in Europe, he observer was struck by analogies occurring even in distant countries. A closer examination has shown that the Europe of the bronze age, or rather of the civilization of the bronze, must be divided into several provinces. Some analogies exist everywhere, but sometimes there is nothing more; sometimes it is possible to establish the affiliation between the civilizations of two provinces, or they are co-ordinated one to another. In pursuing our observations and comparing more closely the antiquities of Mycenæ and those of the Europe of the bronze age, especially those of the Scandinavian finds, we shall, I am convinced, be forced to establish a new province, characterized by a civilization that offers some analogies, for instance, with that of the Scandinavian province and, perhaps, yet more with that of the Hungarian province. Identity there is not, nor a very close connexion. Of all the bronze swords figured in the splendid book of Dr. Schliemann, there is only one (No. 221) that could as well have been found in Scandinavia; but swords of this shape are found elsewhere, and the types characteristic of the tombs of Mycenæ (for instance, Nos. 441 and 446) are foreign to Scandinavian finds.

In all the instances mentioned by Mr. Westropp the same observation is to be made—there are sometimes analogies, but nothing more. The obsidian arrow-heads of Mycenæ remind us of flint arrow-heads found in Scandinavia, but the same type is found elsewhere,—for instance, in Italy; the arrow-heads of types exclusively, or almost exclusively, Scandinavian are not found at Mycenæ. The wheels of the sculptured chariots of Mycenæ and those of the Glyptic chariot of Kivik have both of them only four spokes, but the same number is found in other countries. In the Egyptian museum of Florence there is a chariot the wheels of which have only four spokes, &c. Diadems of bronze are found in Scandinavia, but differ considerably in technique as in the ornaments from the gold diadems of Mycenæ. To place a layer of pebbles under the bodies can hardly be called a Scandinavian "custom," nor is this arrangement found only in the north and at Mycenæ.

I will not tire your readers with any more instances. I believe this: that the tombs of Mycenæ, with their skeletons and their treasures, belong to the dawn of the Greek civilization, which already at that time was subject to strong foreign Oriental influences. But I will not deny that there are circumstances which it is a little difficult to reconcile with this theory; one of the most curious is the large size of the bronze swords. Like Mr. Westropp I should have been prepared for daggers, not for large swords, in the tombs of the earliest Hellenic age. HANS HILDEBRAND.

CHRIST CHURCH, DUBLIN.

September, 1878.

As the readers of the *Athenæum* are aware, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, has been recently restored at the cost of Mr. Henry Roe. In this case, as in other cases, the work has, to a considerable extent, consisted, I understand, in rebuilding, but at last it has been brought to an end and the cathedral reopened. On a general survey of the fair white walls of the interior, one is surprised to notice how few monuments, half-a-dozen at most, are to be seen. This is somewhat remarkable, for with Christ Church's history some records of the dead there interred might be expected. On descending to the vaults, however, all is explained. There, ranged along the wall, in a darkness so dense as scarcely to be lightened by the tallow-candle of the somewhat unlikely looking guides, are the monumental tablets and effigies. Naturally, the first question put is, why those are there, to which the answer given is simply that since the "restoration" no room has been found for them in the church above. On further inquiry as to whether it might be the intention ultimately to remove them to a more fitting place, I was informed that no such intention was entertained. I twice visited the vaults last month

(August) and had different guides. On both occasions I asked the same questions, and both times received the same answers. I do not profess to know whether it is a feeling of ultra-culture which has induced the banishment of the monuments,—it would be difficult indeed to judge of the merits or demerits of works in such situations. It would be interesting, however, to learn how those who raised the funds for the erection of many of the monuments would regard the care which is now bestowed on them. Thus, to take four examples of monuments so erected, there are (1) a monument to Lieut.-Col. Wallace, C.B., erected by the 5th Dragoon Guards, (2) one to George Renny, M.D., by the College of Surgeons, (3) one to Henry Mathews, by the officers of the Arctic ship *Enterprise*, and (4) one to Nathaniel Sneyd, "by public subscription." It surely scarcely entered the minds of the generous donors when they presented those works, which they fondly hoped would commemorate the memory of the departed, that a few years later those monuments would be dragged from the public gaze and consigned to the dust and darkness of the vaults, where the infrequent visitor might study them as best he might by the semi-light of the aforesaid tallow-candle. Nor is this all. When a monument has been found too large for its new abode, the persons who have had charge of this part of the "restoration" movement have not scrupled to take it to pieces; as an instance, see Sir Samuel Auchmuty's monument, which has the large central figure carefully laid at the side. After this it is scarcely necessary to observe that the inscriptions which testify that beneath lie the ashes of those whose names are recorded above are rendered utterly inaccurate, not only by the above removal of the monuments, but also owing to the fact, as vouched for by my two guides, that during the "restoration" the coffins, &c., were collected, and all piled in a corner of the vaults, which is now securely bricked up, with no tablet to tell whose remains are there brought together. This is the respect paid to the dead in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. WILLIAM GEORGE BLACK.

\*.\* A Correspondent to the *Builder* describes similar operations as having been recently effected in the church of All Hallows, Tottenham, and inquires if there is not a law to prevent vaults and tombstones being taken away, with their contents. Such proceedings are by no means unfrequent. The responsibility lies with those who grant the "faculties" to "restorers."

### Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. NEALE, who has so admirably illustrated St. Alban's Abbey Church, has recently prepared drawings of the remarkable paintings in the unlighted chapel of Canterbury Cathedral crypt, on a large scale, the size of the originals. These drawings are to be displayed to the Council of the Kent Archaeological Society at their meeting in the Cathedral Library, Canterbury, on the 25th instant.

A LEARNED Correspondent calls the attention of the authorities of Westminster Abbey to the impropriety of permitting crowds of visitors to walk on the *Opus Alexandrinum* before the altar, which was described by Mr. Burges, in 'Gleanings from Westminster Abbey,' as the finest specimen of that precious form of art on this side of the Alps; it is, no doubt, one of the finest examples of the kind anywhere. Nevertheless it is possible sometimes to see not fewer than thirty persons standing on or trudging over its surface, not one of whom probably has the slightest knowledge of, much less interest in, the relic they are defacing.

SIGNOR LANCIANI writes from Rome, under the date of September 13th:—"There is no doubt that the bronze statue lately found under the Ponte Sisto belongs to Valentinian the eldest. The day before yesterday a pedestal was discovered in the same spot, inscribed with the following dedication:—

IMP. CAESARI. D. N.  
FL. VALENTINIANO MAX. P. F. VICTORI AC  
TRIVMPATORI SEMPER AVG  
S. P. Q. R.

OB PROVIDENTIAM QVAE ILLI SEMPER  
CVM INCLITO PRATRE COMMVNIS EST  
INSTITVTI EX VTILITATE VRBIS AETERNAE  
VALENTINIANI PONTIS ATQ. PERFECTI  
DEDICANDI OPERIS HONORE DELATO IVDICIO PRINCIP.  
MAXIMOR.

L. AVE. AVIANO SYMMACHO EX PRAEFECTIS VRBI

We knew from Ammianus Marcellinus (xxvii. 4) that a bridge, which he calls ambitious and *solidissimus*, had been rebuilt under Valentinian, Valens, and Gratian, at the request of Aurelius Symmachus, praefect of the town. But the information had been referred to the pons Cestius, afterwards Gratiani, or di S. Bartolomeo, and to Quintus Aurelius Symmachus, who held the praefecture in A.D. 384-85. The new document informs us (1) that the bridge before called Probi received the name of Valentinianus, just as the Cestius received the name of Gratianus, from later restorations; (2) that the Symmachus who, according to Ammianus, dedicated the restored bridge, amidst great rejoicings of the population, was the Lucius Aurelius Avianus, father of Quintus, the orator, who held the praefecture A.D. 364-365. From a pedestal discovered in the forum it appears that the Senate granted to him the honour of a gilt bronze statue, which was erected in 377, and that by the express wish of the Emperor another one was put up in Constantinople.

A 'LIVRET-GUIDE' du Visiteur à l'Exposition Historique du Trocadéro is at last on sale at the Paris International Exhibition, but it is a poor substitute for a catalogue—nothing like as full an account of the contents of the galleries as was given in the *Athenæum* on the opening day of the Exhibition. The art-loving public is patient and long suffering, but really this delay in bringing out the catalogue is a severe test even of its endurance. From all appearances the Exhibition will be closed before the publication of the book. We trust that in future exhibitions of this kind the director will insist on the publication of a first edition of the catalogue on the opening day, which could well be done by the heads of the various sections, with the assistance of a few copying clerks; the contributors would, of course, put their lists at the service of the executive. This system would involve the heads of sections being men willing to undertake the duties of their offices, and not merely ornamental figure-heads. A third edition of the official Catalogue of Modern Art has appeared. This, like its predecessors, is next to valueless: the numeration is often erroneous, many of the works are not mentioned, even those of a médaille d'honneur are wanting, nor can any reference to the Fortuny series be found, great as is the interest these pictures have excited. Decidedly the influence of the Impressionists is spreading: here for three francs we have a bulky volume pretending to be a catalogue—the unwary purchaser finds it is but an impression.

DURING an excavation in Mayence, at the end of the Hintere Bleiche, on August 29th, not far from the Münsterthor, the labourers brought to light a stone with a Roman inscription. Mayence is rich in remains of the Roman period of its history, and this last discovery is not the least interesting amongst them. Unhappily, when it was unearthed, it lay with its inscribed side downwards, and the workmen, unaware of its value, had already begun to break the stone into fragments for ordinary use, when a gentleman belonging to the city building office happily gained a sight of it just in time to save it from utter destruction. The inscription, which is chiselled deeply and distinctly, in the elegant lettering of the early imperial period, runs as follows:—

TI. CLAV  
CAESARI. A  
GERMANICO.  
PONT. MAX. TRIB. POT.

III. IMP. IIII. P. P. COS. III.  
CIVES. ROMANI. MANTI  
CVLARI. NEGOTIA TORES.  
C. VIBIO. RVFINO. LEG. PROPR.

That is to say: "Ti(berio) Clau(dio) Caesari, Augusto, pont(ifici) max(im)o, trib(unicia) pot(estate) tertium, imp(eratori) quartum, p(atr)i p(atr)ie, Consuli Tertium, cives Romani manticulari(i) negotiatores, C(aio) Vibio Rufino, leg(ato) pro-pr(aetore)."

THE Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has published a Report of the speeches delivered at its First Annual Meeting, last June. The meeting was extremely successful, and the addresses are well worth reading, especially those of Earl Cowper, Lord Houghton, and Mr. Norwood.

## MUSIO

### ORGAN MUSIC.

THE Commemoration Anthem, *Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High*, by George Lomas, Mus. Bac, Oxon (Novello & Co.), is, as a whole, well written, especially in the opening and concluding choruses, but the verse or semi-chorus, "For He shall give His angels charge," fits the words with so faulty an emphasis, that it has the appearance of having been written with another intention. The "chorale" also is weak, but the fugue is good, and the general effect pleasing. The special organ accompaniment is fairly well laid out.

The ecclesiastical chants published at the office of the series for the Diffusion of Truthful and Natural Science in Music, 28A, Paternoster Square, and the five extracts from litanies, by eminent organists, sent from the same house, appear to have been issued, like other of the publications already noticed in these columns, with some earnest and serious intention, but, notwithstanding the elaborate statements made upon each separate publication, their purpose remains obscure. Setting aside the attempt to fathom the meaning of the design, the one thing left is to regard the matter from a musical point of view alone. In that case these publications appear to be likely to make more mischief than that which it is presumed exists, and which they propose to mend, for flowing and agreeable well-written passages are changed for harsh, crude, and unmusically phrases.

The *Concert-Stück for the Organ*, by W. Spark, Mus.D. (Metzler & Co.) which was written for and played at the recent musical festival at Leeds, is likely to be effective as a means of exhibiting the qualities of an organ and the ability of a player. Dr. Spark has exercised his knowledge as a teacher to write in a form, if not wholly calculated to serve as a model, yet likely to be pleasing to unscientific hearers, and gratifying to players.

The *Organist's Quarterly Journal*, now in its fifth volume, is sufficiently well known among those for whom it was specially projected as to need no particular description of its object. The two parts, for July and October, contain some well-written pieces by the editor, Dr. Spark, of Leeds, and some compositions by other writers more or less meritorious. A good "Fugue" by John Wrigley; a commonplace "March" by John Whitaker; a fanciful, but not wholly faultless "Sonata," by Charlton T. Speer; a masterly "Andante," by James Stimpson; a cleverly written piece by Frederic Archer, called an "Allemande," in obedience to an overdone fashion for the revival of all things in dance music belonging to the last century; a pretentious, but correctly written "Andante," by Dr. Roberts, of Halifax, another "March," by W. A. C. Cruickshank, and yet another "Andante" by George Smith,—altogether these form a portion of a work likely to be useful to organists. Regarded as an art-production, it must be felt that it indicates a tendency in the construction of organ music towards a somewhat dangerous use of the instrument, namely, to treat it as a means of imitating

an orchestra. It is unnecessary, perhaps, to say that such a practice is totally subversive of what may be called the *genius* of the instrument, and not likely to be of any permanent value to art, or productive of any real satisfaction to the hearer.

### THE THREE CHOIR FESTIVAL.

WHOEVER continues the record of the "Origin and progress of the meetings of the three choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford, and of the charity connected with it," left by the Rev. Daniel Lysons, M.A., F.R.S. and F.S.A., which was brought down to 1864 by the late John Amott, organist of Gloucester Cathedral, aided by the late Dr. E. Rimbault, LL.D., will not be able to assert that the 155th meeting, which ended on the 13th inst. in Worcester Cathedral, by what was termed "a special closing service" in the evening, has achieved anything for art advancement. If the execution of the various works be truthfully described, the epithets of "rough and imperfect" must be used, although, as the Bishop of Worcester emphatically declared in his sermon, effects solemn and sublime are obtained from oratorios within cathedral walls. When we listen to the "Messiah," "Elijah," the "Lobgesang," and the "Last Judgment," and make a fair allowance for shortcomings and mishaps in the interpretations, the admission must be made that the Three Choir celebrations are worthy of being maintained within their primitive form. The second question which naturally arises from the consideration of the doings at the concerts, sacred and secular, is whether any new artists have been heard likely to take a prominent and permanent position at these festivals, and as regards Miss Anna Williams at least there can be no doubt. This artist took high ground both in the old and new works; the other soprano, Miss M. Davies, when her voice has gained in power, will be a welcome addition. Her method is good, and her intonation accurate. Mr. Wadmore, the baritone-bass, also made his mark in the music allotted to him. Madame Albani (Mrs. Ernest Gye), Miss B. Griffiths, and Madame Patey, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Guy, and Mr. Santley have all had more or less festival experience, and their distinctive attributes are well known; but, if comparison be instituted between the singers who sang at Worcester in 1872,—which, with all due deference to the Dean and Chapter, was the last genuine festival held in that city,—and the vocalists of 1878, the superiority of the casts six years since is palpable, inasmuch as the artists engaged were the incomparable *prima donna*, Tietjens, and Madame Lemmens-Sherrington for the soprano parts; Madame Patey and Miss A. Fairman, contraltos; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Lloyd, and Vernon Rigby, tenors; and Messrs. Lewis Thomas and Santley, basses. The fact is that last week's gathering was really a "restoration festival," and its popularity and financial success must be ascribed to the pleasure felt at the triumph of public opinion over sacerdotal intolerance. The stewards of 1881, however, now that Worcester will again take part in the Three Choir meetings, will have to look at their future prospects from the artistic point of view essentially. The first reform ought to be the re-erection of an orchestral platform under the west window, retaining, as the bishop has ordained, the religious services on the oratorio morning. The second point for the managers to consider should be the excessive terms paid to artists who are heralded as "stars." The monstrous mistake of devoting one-eighth of the outlay required for the festival to a single vocalist ought not to be repeated. There has been already an emphatic protest against the "star" system, for the lay clerics of Gloucester Cathedral took no part in the past festival, as they required an increase of pay beyond the miserable pittance allowed to the choir-singers, who have to stay a week in the town, and whose remuneration can scarcely meet their travelling and hotel expenses. The Gloucester chorists affirmed that if one artist received 500*l.* for singing some half-a-dozen songs, they, who worked hard at all the concerts, were at least entitled to an allow-

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ance sufficient to cover their week's expenditure. The matter has been freely discussed, for, as one of the noble stewards argued, the main attraction of the festivals is the fine *ensemble*, and there is talent enough in the English vocal market to secure this result without resorting to the Italian Opera-houses to engage some prominent *prima donna* on terms which necessitate the lowering of the sums to be paid to the other artists who sustain the weight of the week's *répertoire*, sacred and secular.

#### THE TEWKESBURY FESTIVAL.

THE Festival Service in the ancient abbey church of the picturesque town of Tewkesbury last Saturday afternoon in aid of the restoration fund was a success both financially and artistically. The nobility and gentry of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire filled the transepts, the portion of the nave which is still open, and the aisles, the choir being reserved for the religious service, and a surprised body of choristers. Although there was no orchestra engaged, some magnificent effects were produced, owing first to the position of the platform for the chorists and principals in the south transept, and secondly to the well-trained voices of the members of the local Philharmonic Society, who were strengthened by additional singers from Gloucester, Worcester, Cheltenham, Pershore, Evesham, Upton-on-Severn, &c. Thus the choruses from Handel's 'Messiah,' Haydn's 'Creation,' and Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' and 'St. Paul' were steadily and imposingly sung, in all pieces the only accompaniment being the organ, played by Mr. Lloyd, of Gloucester Cathedral. This interesting instrument was removed by Cromwell's soldiers from Magdalen College, Oxford, to Hampton Court, where it remained until the Restoration, when it was replaced at Oxford, and thence, in 1737, taken to Tewkesbury. On the organ, it is stated, Milton often played at Hampton Court. The solo singers who tendered their gratuitous services were Madame Patey, who sang airs from 'Elijah' and the 'Messiah'; Miss Bertha Griffiths, who gave Sir Michael Costa's dream-song from his oratorio 'Naaman' and Mr. Sullivan's air, 'The Lord is risen,' from the 'Light of the World'; Mr. E. Lloyd, who selected Handel's air 'Waft her, angels,' unaccountably, however, omitting the exciting recitative, 'Deeper and deeper still,' so associated with the names of Benjamin and Mr. Sims Reeves; and Mr. Wadmore, who chose the air, 'He layeth the beams,' from Handel's 'Israel in Egypt,' and 'Rolling in foaming billows,' from the 'Creation.' The abbey church organist, Mr. J. T. Horniblow, played the voluntaries; Mr. G. Watson conducted the choral music. Mrs. and Miss Ellicott (the wife and daughter of the Bishop of Gloucester) contributed their assistance, and Messrs. Cooke, Evans, and Woodward sang trios by the old English anthem composers, Travers, Greene, and Boyce. Mr. C. H. Lloyd played Bach's fugue (St. Ann) on the organ for the concluding piece of the festival service, after which the visitors viewed the progress of the "restoration" under Mr. Scott. About 5,000*l.* will still be required for the completion of the scheme. In the graveyard attached to the abbey are monuments of the Hart family, the descendants of Shakespeare, whose Avon forms a junction just below Tewkesbury with the Severn. It is intended to have another festival of two days in the abbey, and tenders have been made of lectures to aid the "restoration" fund.

#### Musical Gossip.

MR. SYDNEY M. SAMUEL is writing an English version of the romantic opera, 'Piccolino,' libretto by MM. Victorien Sardou and Nuitter, music by Edmond Guiraud, for production by Mr. Carl Rosa's Company at Her Majesty's Opera in February next.

SIGNOR VERDI'S 'Trovatore' is announced for performance at the Alexandra Palace this evening (September 21st), the cast including Madame

Blanche Cole, Miss Franklein, Messrs. G. Perren, Ludwig, and Marler, with Mr. F. Archer conductor.

BETHOVEN'S Symphony in A, No. 7, and his 'Fidelio' Overture were included in last Monday's programme at the Covent Garden Promenade Concerts, at which Mr. Charles Halle, the pianist, played Weber's Concertstück. The vocalists this week included the names of Madame Rose Hersee, Mrs. Davison, Madame A. Sterling, Miss Orridge, Madame Blanche Cole, Miss E. Abell, Messrs. Lloyd, M'Guckin, W. Morgan, and Santley. The concluding concert will be on the 30th inst. On the 5th of October, M. Riviere will commence a series of orchestral and choral concerts.

M. OFFENBACH'S two-act opera *buffa* is now being played at the Alhambra Theatre, Miss E. Soldene resuming the part of Drogan, which she created in English at the Islington Philharmonic Theatre. Messrs. Marshall and F. Bury also sustain their original characters of the two Genardes. Miss Constance Loseby is Geneviève, and Mr. Aynsley Cook is the Duke of Brabant. The work has evidently not lost its popularity, and the addition of a Bohemian ballet seems to be a device well adapted to the taste of the Leicester Square audiences.

THE Royal Academy of Music directors announce that a competition for the scholarship which bears the name of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett will take place on the 5th of October, the scholarship being vacant through the loss of a very promising pupil, H. J. Cockram, in the wreck of the Princess Alice steamer. The Society of Arts Scholarship in the Kensington National Training School for Music will be competed for shortly. With reference to these two musical institutions, we take leave to suggest to the respective committees a careful study of the new rules and regulations just issued in Paris for the Conservatoire National de Musique et de Déclamation. The decree has been signed by the President of the French Republic on the report of the Minister of Public Instruction, of Worship, and of the Fine Arts. It is a code and a constitution at the same time, for a system of management and of study is clearly laid down. The decree is an expansion of the former scheme, and it includes various improvements tending to promote the thorough training of the aspirants for the lyric and for the histrionic stage, and the preparation of professors by examinations and competitions, and by affording access to the valuable library and the Museum of Instruments. The status of the teachers is enhanced by increased remuneration for their services.

NOTE may be taken of a performance of Mendelssohn's 'Hymn of Praise' at the Harvest Festival to be held on Sunday (Sept. 22nd) at St. Andrew's, Tavistock Place, with full band and chorus.

A WELSH Eisteddfod has taken place this week at Birkenhead, at which prizes amounting to 1,000*l.* were awarded, the adjudicators being Prof. Macfarren, Mr. Brinley Richards, Mr. Parry, and Mr. John Thomas; the solo singers announced were Madame Edith Wynne, Madame Patey, Miss Mary Davies, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley.

HERR THEODORE THOMAS, who in America organized a first-class orchestra, and introduced a new and wide *répertoire* of works, has been appointed Principal of the new Conservatorium at Cincinnati; his successor in New York it will be difficult to find.

AFTER unprecedented success at the Dublin Theatre Royal of the Mapleson Italian Opera Company, success due to the popularity of Madame Gerster-Gardini, representations have been given in Cork, and the Irish tour will finish in Belfast, as during the ensuing week the troupe of Her Majesty's Theatre will depart for New York from Liverpool, to commence the American season on the 21st of October. On the same day Her Majesty's Theatre will be reopened with Italian opera at reduced prices.

THE friends and admirers of Madame Nilsson will regret to learn that the amount of her loss, by the failure of her agent in the United States, is as much as 40,000*l.*, instead of 10,000*l.*, the sum announced.

M. ESCUDIER—despite the renewal of his lease of the Salle Ventadour only a fortnight since—has resigned the post of Director, owing to his losses at the Théâtre Italien, which he ascribes to the exorbitant salaries he paid to the singers. For the present, M. Capoul, the tenor, has undertaken to be the Director for two months only, in order to produce the new opera, 'Les Amants de Vérone,' during the first week of next month. The work will be thus cast: Juliet, Mdlle. Heilbron; the Nurse, Mdlle. Lhéritier; Romeo, M. Capoul; Mercutio, M. Froment; Capulet, M. Dufriche; Lorenzo, M. Taskin. M. Gounod's 'Polyeucte' will be produced before the end of the month, so at least says the last rumour.

M. CARVALHO proposes to bring out in 1878-9 the following new operas at the Salle Favart: 'Un Jour de Noces,' in three acts, the libretto by MM. Sardou and de Najac, music by M. Delfès; 'Suzanne,' in three acts, music by M. Paladilhe, book by MM. Lockroy and Cormon; besides four one-act operettas, the compositions of MM. Dubois, O'Kelly, Bourgeois, and Ortolan. MM. Octave Feuillet and Jules Barbier are allied in the libretto of 'L'Urne,' by M. Ortolan.

MADAME THIERS has addressed a letter of thanks to M. Charles Vervoitte, the Inspector-General of Religious Music in France, for his "Pie, Jesu" and "Domine Deus," executed in Notre Dame on the 3rd inst. She also acknowledges the services of M. Danhauser, the choir-master, and M. Sellenick, the conductor of the band of the Republican Guard, the members of which played Beethoven's Symphony in A, No. 7, which was a favourite with the late President of the Republic. M. Thiers was a great musical amateur.

M. LEMMENS, the Belgian organist, and his wife, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, have been giving a concert in the Paris Trocadero hall for a charitable purpose. Herr Nicolas Rubinstein's first concert of compositions by Russian musicians at the Trocadero was a great success; the works chosen were by Glinka, Borzinsky, Antoine Rubinstein (the pianist), Dargomijsky, and Tchaikowsky. The solo players were Herr N. Rubinstein, piano, and de Kontski, violin; the vocalists were Mdlle. de Belocca and Mdlle. Torrigi.

DR. W. J. VON WASIELEWSKY has just brought out in German a 'History of Instrumental Music in the Sixteenth Century.' Another volume will be devoted to the seventeenth century.

#### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

HAYMARKET.—'Conscience Money,' a Comedy Drama, in Three Acts. By H. J. Byron.

AMONG the results of realism in matters dramatic few are more constantly manifested than the added difficulty of belief which attends any violation of probability, whether as regards the motives of the characters or their actions. It may be accepted as a rule in dramatic art that the first demand on the faith of an audience meets with the most ready acceptance. So long as perfect consistency is maintained, an audience will believe whatever it is told to believe. It sees no difficulty in the way of accepting any condition of affairs set before it. Whether the scene of the story be fairyland, the region of burlesque, or the actual world, is wholly unimportant. Caliban and Ariel are as real as Capt. Cuttle and Little Nell; the love of Ruy Blas for his Queen is as natural and sympathetic as that of Dobbin for Amelia. In proportion, how-

ever, as the characters presented approach more nearly those with whom we are familiar, the standard of probability we apply to their actions is more exact. An exercise of imagination is necessary to enter into the feelings of Undine, when she sees transferred to another the love that was hers, and knows that a revenge adequate to the offence is in her power. We can all, however, at a moment's notice, conceive what is likely to be the conduct of one who, living in the world we inhabit, dressed in our own garb, and placed amidst our own surroundings, finds himself the victim of one of those vicissitudes to which we are constantly exposed. From such a person we exact behaviour conformable to a standard of common sense and worldly experience.

The more closely, then, the dramatist adheres to the actual and the realistic in exterior matters, the more careful should he be not to overpass the boundaries of probability in motive and in action. So far as regards scenery, a green curtain, such as we hear of in Shakespeare's days, was all that a player with imagination required to enable him to realize forest, temple, or market-place in which the action was supposed to pass. The moment scenery was commenced accuracy became imperative. You could not present a cottage as a temple, or a forest as a street. It would lead too far to show how difficulties of this kind were met on the Greek stage, and how, by a system of purely conventional arrangements, the nature of which was understood by the spectator beforehand, it was known that, when a man arrived by a certain door, he came from the neighbouring city, and not from the adjacent temple or the remote port. A system like this was so far unobjectionable that the difficulty met the playgoer at the outset, and did not front him in the middle of the action. Our own system leads constantly to far graver inconveniences, as when a man falls into what is obviously real water, and comes forward a moment after with dry clothes, or when a soldier who has borne the brunt of sustained action, appears with his armour fresh, and his accoutrements burnished. Mr. Byron's drama of 'Conscience Money' illustrates the kind of difficulty in question. With the skill that comes of long practice Mr. Byron disposes his characters upon the stage so that they look like real beings engaged in a real action. So lifelike are they that we exact from them a behaviour consistent with what is known of human conduct. As we progress and our interest commences to grow we find our faith disturbed. The fact that our sympathy has for a moment gone out to what appear to be real personages makes us resentful when we find them dummies. At the close of 'Conscience Money' our feeling towards Frederick Damer, Mr. Byron's hero, is that of one who has apologized to a well made wax figure for rubbing against it, and has then discovered that the set smile which deceived him could not be dismissed. At the outset of the story Fred Damer loves a girl, and is doubtful whether his attentions are agreeable. He determines to put all doubts to rest, proposes in a manly fashion, and is accepted. While still in the seventh heaven he finds that a compensatory misfortune brings him to earth. So far all is human, natural, sympathetic. He marries the girl without telling her that

his fortune rests on an unstable basis, or rather on no basis at all. Here, again, though weak and reprehensible, his conduct is human. When, however, having wronged his wife by his reticence, he attempts to atone for it by neglect amounting to desertion, we fail to see the logic of such a process; and when he accepts as his close friend and the constant associate of his wife a man he knows to have been her lover and believes to be a scoundrel, our surprise is dashed with contempt. Still men are illogical, and something may be allowed the writer who has to frame a story. A return of interest comes again when the hero detects the false friend and tears the mask from his face, and it develops into sympathy when the outbreak brings upon him a revelation of his own miserable secret, of which his enemy has traitorously obtained possession. When, however, after the second exposure we find the hero again accepting in a moment a suggestion of the same transparent villain, to the effect that he shall at once quit his home without bidding farewell to his wife, common sense rises in mutiny. Such a thing cannot be believed, unless we choose to assume the hero to be absolutely demented. So strong is this feeling, the whole audience experiences it, and a play which has succeeded fairly up to this point drops and becomes failure. A full lesson on the requirements of the drama is afforded in these things. A study of the fate of this piece should prevent Mr. Byron from ever incurring a similar fate with any succeeding work. It is scarcely worth while in the case of a piece that has collapsed to deal with matters of detail. As a new termination may yet be provided, it is perhaps worth pointing out that the minor characters, while cleverly sketched, are hurriedly filled in. Sir Archibald Crane, for instance, shows himself pompous in the opening scene, and selfish and mercenary in the concluding. Between times, however, he remains colourless. Much of the dialogue is good, though some is very weak. There is enough, however, of drollery to give the piece a hold upon the public, when another termination is provided.

Mr. Byron plays satisfactorily in his own piece a character such as he has frequently presented. Mr. Terriss is excellent as the rather lingo-like villain of the piece, and Mr. Kelly, Mr. Howe, and Mr. and Miss Pateman are seen to more or less advantage. We do not know whether Mr. Byron or Miss Pateman is responsible for a phrase like the following:—"He much prefers her company to that of mine or that of ours." Such a gem of language was, however, set before the public on the first performance.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

A VERSION of 'Helen's Babies' has been produced at the Gaiety, on the occasion of a morning performance for a benefit. A more stupid piece has seldom been set before the public. What not very exhilarating comedy there was in the original story has entirely disappeared from the adaptation, the whole fun of which appears to be derived from horse-play. In place of children of three and four years of age, or a little more, we have performers the elder of whom is apparently twelve, and for the tricks of two spoiled "babies" we have horn-pipes and sentimental songs. Reduced to the position of a comic interlude in a pantomime,

a portion of the performance might be acceptable. In its present shape it is contemptible.

MISS AGNES LEONARD has appeared at the Court Theatre as the heroine of the drama known as 'Marie, the Pearl of Savoy.' The play is a version of the 'Grâce de Dieu' of MM. D'Ennery and Gustave Lemoine, which was the original of the opera of 'Linda di Chamouni.' Wholly unsuited to modern tastes, it could scarcely hope for a success under the most favourable conditions. When the principal character is interpreted by a young lady who has the very alphabet of her art to learn, and who, without the slightest voice, seeks to induce the public to listen to a series of tuneless songs, failure is, of course, inevitable. Miss Leonard has apparently some capacity, as yet untrained for the stage. She reveals none, however, for singing.

'STAGE STRUCK,' a farce of William Dimond, a dramatist of the early portion of the century, and a son of a once well-known actor and manager of the Bath Theatre, has been revived at the Gaiety Matinees. It affords a curious instance of a thoroughly successful farce extracted from a stupid comic opera. 'Englishmen in India,' as the piece was originally called, was played at Drury Lane on the 27th of January, 1827, with Dowton as Sir Matthew Scraggs, Harley as Tom Tape, the comic hero, and Miss Kelly as Sally Scraggs. By the omission of a serious intrigue and the compression of other portions it was reduced from three acts into one with a great gain in strength and popularity. In this latest revival Miss Lawler played Sally Scraggs with much humour and vivacity, and was well supported by Mr. Elton as Tom Tape.

'LE MARI D'IDA,' a three-act comedy of MM. Delacour and Mancel, has been produced at the Vaudeville. The heroine, who is the mistress of a certain Comte de Saint-Yman, insists upon introducing her lover to her husband. With the gratification of her wishes comes the loss of her empire, since the Count, whom the *bourgeois* pretensions of the husband revolt, retires in disgust, and marries a wife his friends have chosen for him. M. Delannoy was admirable as the husband, a retired perfumer. M. Dieudonné and Mesdames Saint-Marc and Réjane also took part in the interpretation.

'UNE MISSION DÉLICATE,' a one-act comedy of M. Adenis, has been produced at the Odéon. It is in verse, and shows the manner in which a youth sent to personate a friend succeeds in obtaining a girl destined by her friends for his companion.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Cresce diu felix arbor.*—As an illustration of the celebrated lines, "*Cresce diu felix arbor*," which form the subject of Col. Fergusson's paper in last week's *Athenæum*, I may cite the following, which are quoted as traditional among the Irish peasantry in 'The Poets and Poetry of Munster,' 2nd Series, Dublin, 1860, p. xxv:—

Is maith do thoradh a chraín!  
Rath do thoradh argach aon craoibh,  
Mo lean! gan collite innis Fall,  
Lan ded' thoradh gach aon la.

I subjoin the version of these lines, given by the editor; they are stated to have been composed on seeing an Englishman hanging on a tree:—

Good is thy fruit, O tree!  
Plenty of such to each branch of thee!  
I only grieve that the forests of Erin  
Are not daily full of the fruit thou'rt bearing.

Such are the waifs and strays that come down to us as tokens of the long-enduring hatred of races. It would be curious to know in what relation (if any) these bitter lines stand to the inscription on the Archbishop's gallows. The thought seems at all events to have been current among Celtic peoples. Perhaps a wider course of reading than my own would find it elsewhere.

W. R. MORFILL.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. S.—J. S. B.—S. R.—L. M.—V. S. L.—F. J.—G. L. B.—N. H.—A. N.—T. F.—received.  
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